

**STATE OF MONTANA**

**STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN FUNDING**

**THREE-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

**JULY 3, 2007**

**Fiscal Years 2007, 2008 and 2009**

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## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN CHECKLIST

Following is a listing of elements contained in the Montana STOP Implementation Plan.

### Plan Elements

- Brief description of planning process - **Page 6**
- Description of how you included non-profit, non-governmental victim services in the planning process – **Page 6**
- Description of how persons from diverse populations were involved in planning - **Page 6**
- A statement that describes continuing planning activities related to STOP that will be occurring throughout the year – **Page 7**
- A concise description of current project goals and objectives – **Page 12**
- A description of the specific tasks and activities necessary for accomplishing each goal and objective and time frame that identified when activities will be accomplished - **Pages 12-15**
- A description of how your implementation plan will build on efforts of previous years – **Page 16**
- A mention of any major shifts in direction because of re-evaluation or re-assessment of previous efforts – **Page 17**
- A narrative about the priorities or goals your state has set regarding how STOP funds will be used – **Pages 18-22**
- General descriptions of the types of programs and projects that will be supported with STOP grant dollars – **Pages 22-24**
- A description of how the funds will be distributed across the law enforcement, prosecutions, courts, victim services, and discretionary allocation categories- **Pages 22-24**
- An explanation of how subgrant amounts will be based on the populations and geographic areas to be served – **Page 22**
- How the state will give priority to areas of varying geographic size with the greatest showing of need based on the availability of existing domestic violence and sexual assault programs in the population and geographic area to be served in relation to the availability of such programs in other such populations and geographic areas - **Page 24**
- A description of how your state will recognize and address the needs of underserved populations as defined by VAWA 2000 – **Pages 22 and 27**
- A description of how the success of STOP-funded activities in your state will be evaluated – **Page 29**

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Montana Board of Crime Control (**MBCC**) has administered the STOP Violence Against Women funding since its inception in 1995. Each year, the **VAWA Subcommittee** meets to provide input into the development of the STOP Implementation Plan. Over the years, many of the original priorities have been addressed as well as implementation of new initiatives that have been identified through the planning process. On the following pages you will find all of the elements of Montana's Three-Year STOP Violence Against Women Implementation Plan for fiscal years 2007, 2008 and 2009. The following Plan is the result of two planning meetings held in 2005 and 2006. The document is organized using the format recommended in the STOP Implementation Plan Tool. The Implementation Plan Checklist following the Table of Contents has been used to make sure that all required elements as well as most of the optional elements are contained in this document.

MBCC is an 18-member criminal justice planning board appointed by the Governor. This planning board oversees all of the federal block grants awarded to the state through the U.S. Department of Justice as well as several grants from other federal agencies. In this capacity, the board has a 30-year history of providing exemplary stewardship of federal dollars and an outstanding record of making sure that dollars go as far as possible to address the many needs of our vast and rural State. In 1995, MBCC appointed members throughout the state to act as an advisory and planning group for the STOP Program. This group is the VAWA Subcommittee and includes representation from law enforcement, prosecution, tribes, the judiciary, non-profit victim services programs and Statewide Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. The goal of this planning group as well as the overall goal of Montana's STOP program is **to provide every female victim of violent personal crime accessible and appropriate assistance by knowledgeable, well-trained and compassionate public, private service providers and court system personnel**. This has remained the overriding goal when planning and when reviewing grants to be awarded through STOP funding. The STOP Implementation Plan contains reference to funding coordination efforts Montana considers imperative to leveraging the limited dollars available to our state. In addition to adherence to the

federal laws and grant guidelines, Montana has developed priorities for funding that complement and support efforts being made through other sources of funding so that duplication is avoided and dollars are not wasted. It is important to note that many of the priorities identified by the VAWA Subcommittee may be beyond the scope of STOP funding; may require legislative changes; or may exceed the financial resources available under the STOP Program. However, through MBCC staff participation on other agency grant review teams and other victim-related boards statewide and through identification of other funding sources, Montana has been able to make significant inroads into many of these initiatives. Although some of these activities are not listed as specific STOP Plan Goals or Objectives, they are included in the Plan along with information about efforts made in these areas. In other words, STOP funds are not allocated in a vacuum-- they are coordinated with all other resources statewide and in concert with the efforts of many other groups to make the most of what is available. This funding philosophy is at the core of what the Montana Board of Crime Control strives to do every day for the citizens of our state.

## **II. DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING PROCESS**

Since 1995, the Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) has appointed a VAWA Subcommittee to meet and make recommendations on needs and funding priorities for the STOP Program. This Subcommittee is made up of 15 members representing law enforcement, prosecution, the judiciary, tribal, non-profit victim service providers, and Statewide Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Violence (*see Appendix E for complete list of current members, their affiliation and Appendix F letters of support*). In addition to professional affiliation, careful consideration is given to making sure that the group includes many members from the most rural parts of the State including tribal members. The group meets annually and its members are consulted individually throughout the year on issues relevant to the needs identified and to gather further information. In order to foster continuity of planning efforts, the chairperson for the VAWA Subcommittee is also the chairperson for MBCC's Victim Committee.

The planning process includes the following activities:

- ❖ Gathering data on crimes against women to present to the Subcommittee (crime data and victim services data). MBCC Staff is responsible for this.
- ❖ Compiling information on existing programs in Montana funded through MBCC, Department of Public Health and Human Services and other direct discretionary federal sources. MBCC staff is responsible for this.
- ❖ Preparing a map showing services throughout the State (see Appendix D for Statewide Map of Victim Services and Related Programs). This gives members a clear picture of where the services are and which regions are lacking basic services. This was a critical part of the planning process in the early years when development of basic services and training were a top priority. MBCC staff is responsible for this.
- ❖ Development of round table questions to send to Subcommittee members. Members are asked to come prepared to discuss the questions and vote on priorities. The questions and the results of the planning meeting are included later in this document under ***Section IV. Plan Priorities and Approaches***. MBCC staff develops the questions and sends to all Subcommittee members.
- ❖ Development of a planning agenda for the meeting(s). MBCC Staff and the VAWA Subcommittee chairperson are responsible for this.
- ❖ Members are given opportunity during the planning meeting to give responses to roundtable questions and then all members are asked to vote and prioritize these responses. All suggestions are kept in the record as well as summary of votes on each recommendation. Members are called upon individually to provide recommendations on needs and priorities.
- ❖ Members are sent the compiled information from planning sessions and asked for feedback prior to development of the Implementation Plan. This is the responsibility of each individual member to provide any comments or feedback.

- ❖ Planning meetings also include presentations on a variety of topics such as Domestic Violence Fatality Review, Victimization Survey Results, Sex Offender Management, Misdemeanor Probation for Domestic Violence etc. to inform them in their decision making process. MBCC Staff is responsible for finding presenters with expertise on the identified topics.

The general approach for development of the VAWA Implementation Plan is to provide members with the information they need to make informed recommendations and then to draw on the collective expertise of this broad and diversified group.

### **III. NEEDS AND CONTEXT**

Montana is a large state facing many barriers to offering services; low population, inclement weather and road conditions, restricted access to communication and transportation services and limited financial resources. According to the most recent Census data, an estimated 944,000 people reside within more than 145,000 square miles. Our population density is 6.2 persons per square mile compared to 79.6 persons per square mile for the United States. Over 50% of our population resides in 6 of the 56 counties. This makes Montana an *extremely* rural state. Because of a lack of population and industry, the economies of our communities are often unable to provide many health care, law enforcement and social services that are desperately needed. Law enforcement officers in many rural areas are limited to two officers on duty and because of the vast landmass response time can be hours. The Committee considered the geography and economic conditions of this frontier state to be a formidable barrier to creating an informed citizenry, developing a well-trained justice system, and maintaining an accessible network of victim services.

Montana families also face many economic hardships. Census data shows that Montana has a higher percentage than the national average of both families and individuals living below the poverty level and our median family income is almost \$10,000 per year less than the average for the nation. For women it is an even more



serious issue. According to a December 2006 Institute for Women's Policy Research Briefing Paper entitled *Best and Worst Economies for Women*, Montana was listed as one of the eight worst state economies for women (see the complete briefing at [www.iwpr.org](http://www.iwpr.org)). Specifically, Montana ranked the lowest, along with Arkansas, for women's median salary at just \$24,800 for a full-time worker. Montana also ranked in the bottom third for earnings ratio between employed women and men. These two factors—low wages and wage disparity--contribute greatly to many of the barriers identified by the VAWA Subcommittee including poverty, lack of transitional housing and lack of access to legal representation for victims of domestic violence. This also cuts to the core of a very real financial power differential between intimate partners.

Poverty and geographical isolation are most severe for much of the Native American population of the State. Approximately 6.2% of our population is Native American, many living on isolated reservations suffering high unemployment and poverty conditions. The MBCC is committed to continuing efforts at helping tribal programs access funding through technical assistance with grant writing and through direct funding under block grant programs administered through our agency, including the STOP Program.

The above demographic information paints a picture of the obstacles faced by Montana under normal circumstances--the crime data and victim assistance data collected by MBCC show the additional hardships faced when a citizen becomes a victim of crime. MBCC is the repository for all crime data collected from law enforcement agencies statewide. According to the 2004-2005 Crime in Montana Report, index crimes (murder, non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft) have declined *overall* by 8% since 2000. However, the rate of *forcible rape* increased by 23% in this time period. Rape made up 7% of all violent crimes in 1978 and stood at 13.6% in 2005. This could be due to a troubling increase in the number of rapes or to an increase in reporting by victims. Either way, there are more rape victims coming into contact with our justice system necessitating better multidisciplinary training on sexual assault response. The data collected by victim assistance programs shows a similar increase in forcible rape. Over a four-year period starting in 2003, programs reported a 21% increase in victims of sexual intercourse

without consent from 785 to 946. When all adult sexual assaults are included, the increase is even more pronounced at 35% (see following table). Montana has taken steps legislatively as well as through STOP funding allocations to address the many needs in this area. Details regarding these efforts are included in Section IV of this report.

Domestic violence incidents reported to law enforcement and numbers of these victims seeking assistance through programs has remained relatively steady over the past four years. However, there is still almost twice the number of new primary victims seeking services than reporting to law enforcement. This demonstrates that work is still needed in changing the deep-rooted societal perception that domestic violence is a private family matter rather than a serious criminal justice issue. Below is a table showing the numbers of *new primary* victims seeking services through programs in the categories of domestic violence, adult sexual assault (including forcible rape) and stalking over the past four years.

**New Primary Victims Seeking Services through Assistance Programs**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b>	<b>ADULT SEXUAL ASSAULT (including forcible rape)</b>	<b>STALKING</b>
2003	8336	913	1142
2004	8287	996	1415
2005	8324	1094	1229
2006	8212	1232	1176
<b>% change</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>+35%</b>	<b>+3%</b>

The overall % change (+/-) over the four-year period shows the stability in the domestic violence numbers and the dramatic increase of 35% in victims for all adult sexual assaults.

Domestic Violence Homicides in Montana make up approximately 16% of all homicides on average for the past seven years. The Montana Fatality Review Team, funded with STOP dollars, has worked diligently to identify contributing factors and

possible solutions through careful review of four cases each year. The team has made specific recommendations some of which are very similar to many of the priorities set forth by the VAWA Subcommittee. As with many of the recommendations made by both groups, legislative changes have been necessary. In Section IV of this Implementation Plan, the Fatality Review Team recommendations and key findings will be outlined as well as how STOP funding and other funding administered by MBCC will be used to address many of these issues.

Although the incident data on crimes against women gives us an idea of how many primary victims there are, only the data including secondary and ongoing victims give us a complete picture of the resources required to deal with the aftermath of victimization. For example, in calendar year 2006 there were 24,900 victimizations reported by victim assistance programs through Providers of Data Quality (PDQ). Of the 24,900 victimizations, 75% were related to crimes against women. Additionally, the victim assistance programs provided almost 275,000 services in a one-year period, averaging 11 services per victimization. Appendix G contains a map depicting the location of victim assistance programs in the State as well as the focus of each program. This map clearly shows the scarcity of services and the geographical difficulty of providing services in the most rural regions.

The following section (Section IV), details specifically how Montana is working toward our goal of providing every female victim of violent personal crime accessible and appropriate assistance by knowledgeable, well-trained and compassionate public and private service providers and court system personnel.

#### **IV. PLAN PRIORITIES AND APPROACHES**

This section of Montana's STOP Implementation Plan will outline the specific priorities established by the VAWA Subcommittee. The following topics will be detailed in this section:

- A. Major goals and objectives will be listed with timelines for achievement.
- B. Relationship of priorities to previous years will be discussed.

- C. How the goals and objectives were developed and prioritized will be detailed.
- D. Grant-making strategy of MBCC, including the role of the VAWA Subcommittee.
- E. How the needs of underserved victims will be addressed.
- F. Discussion of barriers to implementation.
- G. How STOP funded programs are evaluated and/or monitored.

#### **A. Identified Goal and Objectives**

MBCC hosted two meetings of the VAWA Subcommittee in 2005 and 2006 to identify unmet needs and provide expertise on the topic of violence against women. This input was invaluable in developing the major objectives for this Implementation Plan. The reader will find details about the process utilized in the planning sessions under B and C of this Section. Please note that some of the areas of need identified by the VAWA Subcommittee are either outside the scope of the STOP Program or not financially feasible with the available dollars. However, these recommendations are still included for possible development utilizing other resources and for future planning purposes. Some common themes emerged from the responses given by the Subcommittee and have been incorporated into the STOP Program objectives.

**GOAL:** To provide every female victim of violent personal crime accessible and appropriate assistance by knowledgeable, well-trained and compassionate public, private service providers and court system personnel.

**Objective 1:** To provide consistent follow-up with offenders by the criminal justice system to ensure better compliance with court sanctions including attendance at effective batterer treatment. This was a top priority recommended by the VAWA Subcommittee and the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission.

**Tasks and timeline:**

- ❖ Passage of legislation for funding of Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Probation - *Accomplished in 2005*
- ❖ Implementation of Misdemeanor Probation for Domestic Violence Program through MBCC – *Accomplished in 2006 and Ongoing*
- ❖ Encouragement of applications for comprehensive criminal justice planning under the STOP Program – *One program currently underway in 2006/2007*

**Objective 2:** To fund services targeting underserved rural and Native American communities.

**Tasks and timeline:**

- ❖ Priority for funding of direct services under the STOP program will be given to programs serving rural and Native American victims. – *Five out of eight programs receiving STOP funding under the non-profit victim services category are located in rural areas of Montana. Montana has been and will continue to utilize at least 10% of the non-profit victim services allocation under STOP for programs serving Native Americans.*
- ❖ Montana is utilizing STOP funding for a web-base training program for Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners. This will address the lack of services to rural and Native American victims by providing critical training to practitioners who cannot travel due to economic and/or distance barriers. *This project is funded in 2006 and 2007 and may continue after this timeframe if needed.*

**Objective 3:** To make improvements in technology that will allow courts to track prior offenses and exchange electronic records. This will lead to better tracking of accumulated misdemeanor offenses leading up to felony charges. This was a

recommendation from Montana's VAWA Subcommittee and by the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission.

**Tasks and timeline:**

- ❖ Montana will utilize STOP funding through our Supreme Court starting in FY2007 to accomplish the following goal of enhancing the FullCourt case management system for the processing of protection orders in the State of Montana with an *estimated completion date of October 1, 2007. A training manual will be developed with an estimated completion date of December 31, 2007.*
  1. Add alerts in FullCourt to highlight expiring temporary or permanent orders of protection.
  2. Add a Brady firearm prohibition indicator to the permanent order case screen and populate the Order of Protection face sheet template accordingly. This would accurately denote for law enforcement any firearm prohibition associated with the order and also facilitate the timely entry of protection orders into the FBI NCIC Protection Order file.
  3. Modify the expiration date field for the protection order to allow for easy editing.
  4. Create necessary merge codes that allow the fields within the civil protection order to populate the protection order template.
  5. Create standard protection order and crimes against women status reports that would allow Judges and staff to review current status and activities related to protection orders and crimes against women.

6. Develop and distribute a training manual for enhancements and create and deliver an on-line training presentation for judges and staff on how to use the FullCourt civil protection order screens, forms and reports.

**Objective 4:** Institutionalize training for the criminal justice system on domestic and sexual violence.

Tasks and timelines:

- ❖ MBCC will continue to make funding of training to law enforcement, prosecutors and judges a priority under STOP funding. Major programs for training are funded on a continuation basis:

Montana Law Enforcement Academy – Comprehensive Domestic and Sexual Violence Training – Ongoing

Billings City Police Department Training Program – Montana’s largest city – Ongoing on a competitive basis

Dawson County Domestic Violence Program – Provides a regional training for rural Eastern Montana counties each spring. Ongoing on a competitive basis

Montana Supreme Court – Provides training for judges and other court personnel. Ongoing

*These are ongoing projects with no specific end date, therefore meeting the recommendation of institutionalizing training.*

## **B. Relationship to Prior Implementation Plans**

The current Implementation Plan builds on the previous plans in the following key ways:

- ❖ Focus on identifying emerging needs that address the broadly defined goal that has been in place since the original plan in 1995.
- ❖ Adding priority areas of funding as needed to address new initiatives while staying within the 15 purpose areas authorized under the STOP Program.
- ❖ MBCC hosts regular annual meetings of the VAWA Subcommittee to generate fresh input into ways to improve the funding strategy under STOP.
- ❖ Continue training efforts that have consistently been identified as a high priority under STOP including training for law enforcement and the judiciary.
- ❖ Address the needs of sexual assault victims by enhancing training efforts for nurse examiners. Due to the increases in numbers of sexual assault reports, the SANE program has evolved to increase access to training. MBCC has expanded the funding from a statewide traditional SANE training to development of a web-based training. This focuses on the need to get the training into the hands of rural, isolated practitioners who cannot travel for training including medical personnel on Montana's Indian reservations.
- ❖ Funding of the Montana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission with STOP dollars has created a quasi-research component that has reinforced many of the priorities established in the past Implementation Plans and the current plan.
- ❖ New VAWA requirements such as the 10% requirement for culturally specific programming under the victim services allocation have strengthened the existing funding emphasis on rural and Native American service programs.



*There have been no major shifts in direction because of re-evaluation of efforts; rather there have been significant improvements and successes in meeting many of the priorities established in past plans and in making progress on current objectives.* Two examples include the web-based SANE program and the Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Probation program. Although STOP funding has actually decreased, Montana has been able to leverage other resources to keep the momentum going and has passed laws that address many of the issues.

### **C. Priority Areas**

Montana's VAWA Subcommittee met in 2005 and 2006 to identify priorities for the STOP program as well as overall priorities for addressing violence against women that may be beyond the scope of the STOP program.

The following four questions were mailed out to all subcommittee members a week prior to the meeting to allow them time for review and consideration. During the planning session, the Chair of the subcommittee read each question and invited members to respond. Members were given ample time to express their ideas and to discuss other members' ideas. A staff member of MBCC took notes and then all members were given colored dots representing votes and asked to place them next to those items that they believe are most important.

Subcommittee members were told that the answers they provide to these questions would be used by MBCC in writing the new three-year statewide VAWA Implementation Plan required for each state and submitted to the Office on Violence Against Women. As with all past planning meetings, members know that not all responses are feasible with STOP funding. However, they are encouraged to ***not*** limit responses for these reasons, but rather to put forward any suggestions or strategies they feel would best achieve the overriding mission of ending violence against women.

Responses are listed below each question in order of most support by the subcommittee to least as represented by the number of dots placed next to them. Those responses that are feasible under the STOP Program are in bold-faced print and have been

included in the project objectives in Section IV – A of this Plan. **It is important to note that 5 out of the 7 responses receiving the highest number of votes for question #1 have been included in the objectives of this Implementation Plan.**

***Question #1: What do you see as the most critical unmet need of victims of domestic violence***

***in Montana and what ideas do you have to solve this?***

1. Access to legal services. (12 dots)
2. **Consistent follow-up with offenders by the criminal justice system to ensure better compliance with court sanctions including attendance at effective batterer treatment. (10 dots) (Discussion ensued about what, if any, effective treatment exists and at what cost and availability.)**
3. Affordable housing. (7 dots)
4. **Victim-friendly services especially with regard to seeking child support. (7 dots)**
5. **Electronic connection of courts. (6 dots)**
6. **Access to shelter and other services for rural victims. (4 dots)**
7. **Institutionalize training for law enforcement, prosecutors and judges on domestic and sexual violence. (3 dots) It was noted by law enforcement members that training for them is good at the basic academy level, but more ongoing training is needed on an individual department level. The judicial participant also indicated that judges have received a great deal of domestic violence training. This is true more at the lower court level.**
8. Transportation (2 dots)
9. Supervised visitation. (2 dots)
10. Employment options. (2 dots)
11. Educate victims better on the dynamics of domestic violence and why it doesn't work to go back. Help them with why and how to leave. (1 dot)
12. Accessing services for single women without children (including older women whose children are grown). (1 dot)

13. System disconnect between victim advocates and DPHHS (child protective services). The right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing. Money is needed to do training on the protocol jointly developed by the Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and the Department of Public Health and Human Services. (1 dot)
14. Daycare – cost and hours. (0 dots)

**Question #2:** *What do you believe would strengthen the criminal justice response to gender-motivated crime the most?*

1. Research on batterer intervention programs outside of the commonly used systems models (we tend not to look at integrated systems). (8 dots)
2. Public information about partner/family member assault. This puts pressure on elected officials at all levels to address the issue. (7 dots)
3. Highlight model programs in the state. (6 dots)
4. **Officer issued 72-hour order of protection. A judge would write a standing no contact order to be in effect until the arraignment. This could then be issued by a police officer based on his/her judgment at the scene. This falls under the category of making it easier for cops, prosecutors and judges to do their jobs and expediting victim safety. (5 dots)**
5. **Ongoing training at all levels of the criminal justice system. (4 dots)**
6. **Strengthen offender accountability. (4 dots)**
7. Statistics on arrest vs. disposition of these cases. Also better statistics on gender/ethnicity/age of victims. (3 dots)
8. Let the community know through an aggressive media campaign that this is a crime against the individual victim, children and the community. This will help victims by reinforcing that these acts are criminal and will help persuade the whole community to support this belief system. (3 dots)
9. No deferred imposition of sentences in PFMA when the case is factually good. (This was accomplished in DUI through the work of MADD.) (2 dots)

10. Recognition of outstanding law enforcement officers and prosecutors in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault. Do a better job of publicity. (2 dots)
11. Encourage participation of women in leadership positions. This will help to change some negative cultural attitudes about women.

**Question #3:** *What, in your opinion, is the greatest barrier to achieving convictions for partner/family member assault?*

1. Evidentiary issues. Need to look at rewriting statute to reflect the repetitive and escalating nature of these crimes similar to the stalking statute. Allowing a pattern of prior acts or behavior into evidence. (7 dots)
2. Length of time between reporting of the offense and prosecution. (5 dots)
3. Stalking statute. (5 dots)
- 4. Education and resources. (4 dots)**
- 5. Small town culture. (4 dots)**
6. Lack of multi-agency communication (3 dots)
7. Lack of resources for more law enforcement officers and prosecutors. (3 dots)
8. Television (the CSI phenomena). (3 dots)
9. The nature of the offense (often only one witness, ethical dilemmas regarding not wanting to tell victims what to do). (2 dots)
10. Jury bias – lack of public education and ingrained opinions and beliefs about family violence. (2 dots)
11. Lack of dollars for expert witnesses. (1 dot)
12. Culture (1 dot)
- 13. Problems in/with the system. (1 dot)**
14. Including healthy relationships as part of school curriculum.

**Question #4:** *What recommendation(s) would you put forward for better managing sexual offenders?*

- 1. Specialized probation and parole officers for sex offenders. (13 dots)**

- 2. Strengthen community notification. (7 dots)**
3. Long-term segregated unit for sex offenders. (6 dots)
4. Lifetime civil commitment. (6 dots)
5. More law enforcement officers to track registered sex offenders. (5 dots)
- 6. GPS tracking. (4 dots)**
7. Re-evaluate tier levels. (4 dots)
8. Look for effective treatment strategies. (4 dots)
9. Crisis line for sex offenders (AA for sex offenders?). (0 dots)

Through the planning process, MBCC identified three of the fifteen STOP Program purpose areas to focus funding toward. This does not preclude applicants from applying under the other 12 purpose areas.

Following is a table listing the priority purpose areas, the projects funded for each one and what category it falls into (law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, 10% culturally specific, and courts). This table only includes those programs funded under the priority purpose areas. A brief description of all programs funded is included later in this section.

<b><u>Purpose Area #1</u></b>	<b><u>Program Funded</u></b>	<b><u>Category of Funding</u></b>
Training law enforcement officers and prosecutors to identify and respond more effectively to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.	Montana Law Enforcement Academy Montana Supreme Court Billings Police Department Dawson Co. Domestic Violence Program	Law Enforcement Courts Law Enforcement Non-Profit Victim Services
<b><u>Purpose Area #5</u></b>		
Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services programs for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; developing or improving delivery of victim services <i>to racial, cultural, ethnic and language minorities and other underserved populations</i> ; providing specialized domestic violence advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted; increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women.	Confederated Salish & Kootenia Tribes Safe Harbour ( <b>Culturally Specific</b> ) Dawson County Domestic Violence Pgm. Tri-County Network Custer Network Women's Resource Center  Other underserved category identified for this priority is <b>rural</b> . All programs listed above for this purpose area are rural.  <u>Urban Programs</u> Friendship Center Butte Safe Space YWCA Billings – Sexual Assault Program	Prosecution Victim Witness Non-Profit Victim Services Non-Profit Victim Services Non-Profit Victim Services Non-Profit Victim Services Non-Profit Victim Services  Non-Profit Victim Services Non-Profit Victim Services Non-Profit Victim Services
<b><u>Purpose Area #9</u></b>		
Training sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners.	Planned Parenthood of Montana SANE MT Dept of Justice Web-based SANE  (web-based SANE training addresses needs of increasing numbers of sexual assault victims especially in our rural areas)	Discretionary Discretionary

Below is a list of all programs funded in FY2006 and the category of funding they fall under:

### **FY 06 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Allocations**

<b>Federal Block Grant Montana:</b>	<b>\$865,672.00</b>
Allowable Administrative Funds (10%)	\$ 86,567.00
<b>Remaining Required Pass Through:</b>	<b>\$779,105.00</b>
<b><u>Required Minimum Funding Allocations</u></b>	
Law Enforcement <b>25%</b>	\$194,776.00
Prosecution <b>25%</b>	\$194,776.00

Non-Profit Victim Services <b>30%</b>	\$233,732.00
Courts <b>5%</b>	\$ 38,955.00

The remaining \$116,866.00 can be allocated at the State's discretion to any of the four categories above or other projects that meet the intent of the VAWA and fit one of the eleven broad purpose areas.

#### **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

06-82235 Helena Police Department	\$ 52,640.00	
06-82225 City of Billings Police Department	\$ 36,745.00	
06-82241 MT Law Enforcement Academy	\$ 84,430.00	
06-82234 Gallatin CO Sheriff's Dept.	\$ 46,685.00	
06-82248 Petroleum County Sheriff's Dept.	\$ 1,500.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$222,000.00</u></b>	<b>28%</b>

#### **PROSECUTION**

06-82227 Confederated Salish & Kootenai	\$ 38,000.00	
06-82224 City of Billings	\$ 38,000.00	
06-82223 Billings City Attorney	\$ 52,000.00	
06-82233 Gallatin County Attorney	\$ 51,662.00	
06-82237 Park County Attorney	\$ 19,250.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$198,912.00</u></b>	<b>25%</b>

#### **NON-PROFIT VICTIM SERVICES**

06-82210 Safe Harbour, Inc.	\$ 24,000.00	*
06-82230 Dillon's Women's Resource Center	\$ 53,000.00	
06-82228 Custer Network Against Dom. Abuse	\$ 34,405.00	
06-82232 Friendship Center of Helena	\$ 50,000.00	
06-82226 Butte Safe Space	\$ 30,000.00	
06-82240 YWCA of Billings	\$ 25,000.00	
06-82239 Tri-County Network Against DV & SA	\$ 30,000.00	
06-82229 Dawson Co. Spouse Abuse Program	\$ 5,000.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$251,405.00</u></b>	<b>32%</b>

\*\$24,000 award to Safe Harbour meets or exceeds the requirement of awarding 10% of the 30% non-profit victim services allocation ( $779,105 \times .30 = 233,731.50$  x .10 = \$23,373) to culturally specific programs.

#### **DISCRETIONARY**

06-82242 MT Attorney General – Fatality Review	\$ 7,000.00	
06----- MBCC – Data Training	\$ 4,539.00	
06-82236 Missoula County	\$ 17,000.00	
06-82244 Web-based Rape Kit Training	\$ 16,000.00	
06-82238 Planned Parenthood of Montana	\$ 15,000.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$ 59,539.00</u></b>	<b>8%</b>

## COURTS

05-82004	MT Supreme Court	\$ 29,000.00	
05-81992	Flathead County	\$ 18,250.00	
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>		<b><u>\$ 47,250.00</u></b>	<b>7%</b>

Programs serving rural populations are given priority under non-profit victim services in order to begin addressing the needs identified by the VAWA Subcommittee. Also, funding was given to a SANE training program that will provide training to rural and isolated communities including Indian reservations. This training was previously difficult to access due to travel requirements. Additionally, funding for multidisciplinary training is provided to one of the most isolated parts of the state to be conducted on a regional basis. The statewide training programs are also available to participants in every part of the state. Because our grant process is competitive, programs for underserved populations are not guaranteed funding, however, priority is given whenever possible. MBCC began providing grant writing training specific to Native American communities in April and May 2007. The VAWA Native American grant solicitation was used as a grant-writing example in the training class. This will help Montana's Native American Tribes access not only block grant funding offered through MBCC but also large amounts of funding set aside specifically for and available directly to tribal programs. Approximately 8% of the total pass-through funding under the STOP Program has been awarded to tribal programs or programs serving 90%+ Native American clients and residing on a reservation. Approximately 30% of the overall STOP Program funding (covering all categories) has been awarded to programs that directly benefit rural victims (including Native Americans).

Appendix A contains a complete listing of all programs funded in our most recent year (Federal FY06) including allocation categories as well as a brief description of each program.



#### **D. Grant-making Strategy**

MBCC awards grants on a competitive basis for all programs including VAWA. The Board is the administering agency for most of the federal grant programs through the U.S. Department of Justice as well as some funding from other federal agencies and the State of Montana. To address many of the needs identified by the VAWA Subcommittee MBCC looks to a variety of sources of funding as well as legislative initiatives. To best leverage existing dollars available to victim services programs, MBCC sends out the RFP for VOCA and VAWA at the same time. This insures that there is a minimum of duplication of effort as well as a maximization of limited financial resources. Currently MBCC funds approximately 70 programs between VOCA, VAWA and Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Probation. In addition to coordination of the complimentary funding sources, MBCC staff also participates in grant review for the family violence funding administered by the state's Department of Public Health and Human Services. The overarching philosophy of competitive funding is to look at not only whether an applicant complies with the program guidelines, but also how the applicant addresses the needs and the quality of the program. Following is a summary of the grant-making process for MBCC:

- ❖ Review federal guidelines and applicable State and Federal laws
- ❖ Assemble a multidisciplinary planning team or subcommittee to act in an advisory capacity (VAWA Subcommittee for the STOP Program). See Appendix E for a complete list of membership for the VAWA Subcommittee.
- ❖ Write a State Implementation Plan (every three years for VAWA) to be used in conjunction with federal guidelines in development of an RFP.
- ❖ Develop an RFP to be distributed widely throughout the State: RFP includes information on *priorities for funding* in addition to the general requirements. See Appendix B.

- ❖ ***MBCC staff has historically provided annual grant training. Programs have an opportunity to meet with their Program Specialist and Accounting staff.***
- ❖ Staff reviews applications and develops a written recommendation for consideration by an MBCC Committee (Victims Committee is responsible for VOCA, VAWA and Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Probation).
- ❖ Victims Committee meets to discuss, deliberate and make formal recommendations on funding to the full Board.
- ❖ The full Board (MBCC) meets to consider motions from the Victims Committee and to take formal action on the recommendations.
- ❖ ***Grants are awarded for a one-year term with priority given to continuation programs. All programs must reapply each year.***
- ❖ Applicants are required to submit fiscal, narrative and statistical information and MBCC staff reviews this information and completes federal reports.

MBCC has a history of encouraging collaboration amongst programs in order to address many of the circumstances created by geographical isolation. For example, a very successful program funded through VOCA provides direct services to victims of crime for a judicial district encompassing five counties. Another program funded under VAWA provides an annual regional training event for a large rural area. Although the map in Appendix G may indicate a scarcity of services in that part of the state, the coverage has been created through flexibility and coordination of many localities. This creativity and cooperation is a hallmark of how most of rural Montana functions. Rural isolation is also being addressed through the STOP Program by funding a web-based training program for SANE; funding statewide law enforcement training through the Academy; funding mostly rural direct service programs and funding court activities that benefit rural locations equally. Throughout this document the reader will find references through narrative, maps and charts related to spatial issues, population density and the plight of individuals receiving minimal or fragmented services. Most deficiencies can be attributed to geographic barriers and lack of resources as opposed to misunderstanding

and attitude. With the exception of six or seven communities, towns are all under 25,000 in population. Only one has a population over 100,000. With that consideration, urban and rural differentiation is of little value.

MBCC has begun offering grant writing workshops to Native American Tribes in 2007 and plans to continue this effort to increase tribal access to direct discretionary grants as well as to block grant funding administered by the State. The solicitation for VAWA Tribal funding was used as a workshop practice document in the training. The hope is that tribal programs will have better success in receiving grants under this and other programs. The STOP program has allocated a minimum of 10% of the victim services required allocation to culturally specific programming serving Native American victims.

#### **E. Addressing the Needs of Underserved Victims**

Montana is committed to addressing the access to service problem experienced by extremely isolated victims. We must also address the service delivery barriers presented in the more populous western third of the state. MBCC will strive toward an equitable fund distribution that acknowledges the needs of victims across the spectrum of geography and population. Because this State's grant award process is predicated on a competitive process, we are compelled to objectively judge the quality, vision, and responsiveness of all applications. MBCC takes into account the fact that it often costs more per client to provide services in a rural location due to the lack of economies of scale. Transportation costs are higher and fixed costs are often the same for a small rural program.

Appointments on the VAWA Subcommittee are made carefully making sure there is broad professional as well as geographic representation. We have also made appointments of Native Americans who reside on tribal lands. We have succeeded very well in this and have many long-term committed participants from the most rural regions of the state.

Technical assistance is offered regularly to programs throughout the state. Most recently, MBCC began offering specialized grant writing training for rural Native

Americans. As stated in the previous section on funding strategy, programs serving rural populations are given priority under non-profit victim services in order to begin addressing the needs identified by the VAWA Subcommittee. Also, funding was awarded for development of a web-based SANE training program that will provide training to rural and isolated communities including Indian reservations. The Statewide SANE training was often difficult to access due to travel requirements. Additionally, funding for multidisciplinary training is provided to one of the most isolated regions of the state. The statewide training programs are also available to participants in every part of the state.

#### **F. Barriers to Implementation**

Many of the areas identified by the VAWA Subcommittee continue to present challenges. Lack of funding to cover all of the needs is foremost. In 2007, Montana received a cut of more than \$100,000 between VOCA and VAWA. When many programs are surviving on less than \$30,000 and all funding has been allocated, this creates a situation where funding has to be cut or eliminated for an already-struggling service provider. Tough decisions were required and Montana met the challenge by staying the course of prioritizing the most rural of programs under VAWA. Funding decisions were made that combined programs and placed contingencies on others to broaden their scope to incorporate loss of funding in their area.

Our overall commitment to the competitive process has allowed us to retain many exemplary programs and expand them judiciously. Scarcity of funding has necessitated difficult decisions on marginal programs. Focus remains on quality programs that can deliver training, services and information to the most people in our state keeping in mind that there are some programs that do a better job of reaching our most rural areas through a regional or local approach. MBCC staff participation in statewide planning groups will help Montana weather the funding shortfalls and continue to address the needs in the most efficient ways possible. Staff members from MBCC serve on the State Department of Corrections Victim Advisory Council, the Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence DELTA Council and the Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. These

leadership positions and connections with other agencies position MBCC at the helm of planning and program development on all issues related to victim assistance and criminal justice for our state.

#### **G. Monitoring and Evaluation**

MBCC requires quarterly fiscal, narrative and statistical information from all programs receiving VAWA funding. A computer database called GMIS (Grant Management and Information System) is used for all fiscal information. The statistical and narrative components of the reporting are used to provide information to OVW in the Subgrant Award and Performance Reports submitted annually.

MBCC, in collaboration with Montana's Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, user programs and the State's Department of Public Health and Human services developed a comprehensive database called Providers of Data Quality (PDQ) to collect extensive information from all programs receiving VOCA, VAWA and Family Violence funds. This is an incident based database and provides the following information:

- ❖ Staffing information as well as volunteer hours
- ❖ Training information
- ❖ Number of Primary and secondary victims served
- ❖ Total unduplicated victims served
- ❖ Crime category
- ❖ Type of service provided
- ❖ Service Count
- ❖ Demographic information such as: Race, Sex, Age, Mental or Physical Disabilities
- ❖ Contributing Factors: Alcohol/Drugs, Low Income
- ❖ Information on Orders of Protection (very limited information)
- ❖ Number of victims who returned to the abuser

After more than five years using this database and fine-tuning it to better meet the needs of programs, MBCC is confident that we are getting accurate enough data to identify trends and needs. Programs are provided training and technical assistance on a regional basis, individually on-site and through telephone contact. More than 55 programs currently use PDQ. MBCC is also the repository for all crime data in the state and this data is also used for planning purposes. Additionally, reports such as the Fatality Review Commission Bi-Annual Report are used extensively in planning efforts.

Quarterly fiscal, narrative and statistical data are carefully reviewed and on-site visits to programs are conducted at least once every four years.

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

Two important factors - **culture** and **country** – have been and continue to be the cornerstones from which this STOP Implementation Plan was developed. The nature of this problem, compounded by the extent to which our citizens suffer, are intertwined with the attitude and knowledge of the public servants charged with response, the public and private programs that struggle to provide compassionate services, and the economy which drives the financial support of it all.

There are still problems in the criminal justice system with prosecution of sexual assault cases. Challenging prosecutorial issues requiring expertise, time and education include the “he said/she said” nature of many cases, the sometimes lack of forensic evidence, and victims recanting or fearing offender retaliation.

Outreach to health practitioners on Indian Reservations and other rural locations must continue for SANE training funded through the STOP Program. The forensic evidence or psycho/sexual evaluations are not available in all locations and often result in creating more trauma for victims and further delays in moving cases through our criminal justice system. The new web-based training program should make great inroads into the training deficiencies. The Montana Law Enforcement Academy will be placing a greater emphasis on training for law enforcement on sexual assault response.

There is still a lack of understanding and comprehension of the dynamics of domestic violence. Some within the criminal justice system have not come to fully

understand “why a victim goes back” or “why they recant”. There must be a greater emphasis on education of all disciplines that victims who “get out” or strive to put a permanent end to their relationship are at an increased risk of dying. The need to have effective and careful safety planning discussions with victims must become a part of discussions by all who are charged with the responsibility of public safety, services and offender accountability.

In conclusion, rural isolation, lack of financial resources and the difficulties created by ingrained societal attitudes are challenges that many frontier states will face for many years to come. However, great improvements have been made over the past ten years of VAWA funding through coordination with other complimentary funding sources and through efforts at changing limiting laws and policies on the state and local level. Montana is proud of its achievements and plans to build on these to reach our goal of *providing every female victim of violent personal crime accessible and appropriate assistance by knowledgeable, well-trained and compassionate public, private service providers and court system personnel.*

COPIES OF ALL ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE APPENDICES ARE ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL OF THIS DOCUMENT AND ARE SEPARATE ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Budget for FY06 and Subgrant Summary**



## FY 06 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Allocations

Federal Block Grant Montana: \$865,672.00

### F. ALLOWABLE Administrative Funds (10%) \$ 86,567.00

Remaining Required Pass Through: \$779,105.00

Required Minimum Funding Allocations

Law Enforcement **25%** \$194,776.00

Prosecution **25%** \$194,776.00

Non-Profit Victim Services **30%** \$233,732.00

Courts **5%** \$ 38,955.00

The remaining \$116,866.00 can be allocated at the State's discretion to any of the four categories above or other projects that meet the intent of the VAWA and fit one of the eleven broad purpose areas.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT**

06-82235 Helena Police Department \$ 52,640.00

06-82225 City of Billings Police Department \$ 36,745.00

06-82241 MT Law Enforcement Academy \$ 84,430.00

06-82234 Gallatin CO Sheriff's Dept. \$ 46,685.00

06-82248 Petroleum County Sheriff's Dept. \$ 1,500.00

**TOTAL** \$222,000.00 28%

#### ***PROSECUTION***

06-82227 Confederated Salish & Kootenai \$ 38,000.00

06-82224 City of Billings \$ 38,000.00

06-82223 Billings City Attorney \$ 52,000.00

06-82233 Gallatin County Attorney \$ 51,662.00

06-82237 Park County Attorney \$ 19,250.00

**TOTAL** \$198,912.00 25%

#### ***NON-PROFIT VICTIM SERVICES***

06-82210 Safe Harbour, Inc. \$ 24,000.00

06-82230 Dillon's Women's Resource Center \$ 53,000.00

06-82228 Custer Network Against Dom. Abuse \$ 34,405.00

06-82232 Friendship Center of Helena \$ 50,000.00

06-82226 Butte Safe Space \$ 30,000.00

06-82240 YWCA of Billings \$ 25,000.00

06-82239 Tri-County Network Against DV & SA \$ 30,000.00

06-82229 Dawson Co. Spouse Abuse Program \$ 5,000.00

**TOTAL** \$251,405.00 32%

#### ***DISCRETIONARY***

06-82242 MT Attorney General – Fatality Review \$ 7,000.00

06-----MBCC – Data Training \$ 4,539.00

06-82236 Missoula County \$ 17,000.00

06-82244 Web-based Rape Kit Training \$ 16,000.00

06-82238 Planned Parenthood of Montana	\$ 15,000.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$ 59,539.00</u></b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>COURTS</b>		
05-82004	MT Supreme Court	\$ 29,000.00
05-81992	Flathead County	\$
	18,250.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$ 47,250.00</u></b>	<b>6%</b>

## **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF VAWA PROGRAMS FUNDED**

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANTS**

Helena Police Department - This department has hired a specialized officer to investigate and coordinate cases involving violent crimes against women especially domestic abuse, sexual assault and stalking. The officer is working with community members on how to investigate crimes when either the victim or offender suffers from mental illness or has developmental disabilities. Besides a specialized officer, on-going training for patrol officers and prosecutors as to the dynamics of these crimes, comprehensive report writing, and effective prosecution is addressed within the department. This program works cooperatively with the victim/witness advocacy project and the sexual assault program at the Friendship Center and is involved with the Helena Family Violence Council. The officer educates high school students and the community through public awareness campaigns with the aide of Carroll College interns.

City of Billings Police Department – The Department will sponsor two training seminars in September 2003 as part of an ongoing effort to provide police officers and investigators with enhanced resources to effectively confront domestic violence issues in an in-depth and comprehensive manner. The main objective of the seminar is to further officer understanding of the victim point of view and the perceived lack of protection and loss of trust in government and law enforcement. They will place an emphasis on victim-oriented investigative techniques. Topics covered will include evidence gathering and interviewing skills; applicable domestic violence laws; domestic violence involving special needs populations (children, elderly, disabled). Emphasis will be on effective, victim-oriented interviewing skills and increasing knowledge of advocacy, assistance and family dynamics of domestic violence. Retired Lieutenant Mark Wynn of Nashville, Tennessee will moderate the seminar. All sworn law enforcement officers in Billings will be required to attend. Others such as prosecutors and advocates will be allowed to attend also.

Montana Law Enforcement Academy - The Montana Law Enforcement Academy will be continuing its efforts to provide consistent and thorough training to cadets at the academy and field officers at all levels across the state on how to handle and investigate domestic and sexual violent cases. This project is a joint effort between the Academy and the Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. The continuation of the increase in the basic academy offers law enforcement the chance to respond to calls in the scenarios. The project will continue SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) training in two locations of the state, they will combine efforts of the SANE training grant and help local communities develop more comprehensive strategies to approaching victims of sexual violence. The basic Victim/witness academy and the Advanced Victim Academy will continue under this grant.

Gallatin County Sheriff - This law enforcement agency utilizes Violence Against Women funds to establish a specialized investigator to improve the agency's response to domestic violence and other violent crimes against women. This officer will not only specialize in these crimes, but will also train others in the department and present information on the efforts of the department to other community groups. The investigator will act as a liaison between other criminal justice agencies, non-profit services and the victims. This program, named "Operation Freedom From Fear", will work closely with the victim/witness advocate for the City/County on a regular basis to improve the handling of these crimes in Gallatin County.

## **PROSECUTION GRANTS**

**Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes** – The prosecutor’s office of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes will continue to provide victim/witness services for victims of violence who need support and advocacy during prosecution. The program will offer criminal justice advocacy, emotional support, information and referrals, personal advocacy and assistance with orders of protection. The prosecutors’ office and the law enforcement agency will provide cross training on sexual assault and domestic violence issues. This tribe has cross deputization with civilian law enforcement and therefore will require the advocate to be apprised of both tribal and state statutes regarding victimization.

**Billings City Attorney’s Office** – The city attorneys’ office in Billings will continue to have a dedicated prosecutor to handle partner/family member assaults, sexual assaults and child incest cases. The office has adopted a “no-drop” policy for partner/family member assaults and has two victim/witness advocates in their office that will work closely with this attorney so that victims are involved in the decisions surrounding their cases. The attorney’s office will provide training to the police department on preferred response, crime scene documentation and most importantly on capturing “excited utterances” in their reporting. The advocates and attorney have revised officer’s checklist for responding to these crimes and have filed many revocations on offenders who are not following through with their sentencing recommendations.

**Intermountain Planned Parenthood** - This agency will continue to receive Violence Against Women funding to continue to offer intense training to licensed nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants for Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE). This program establishes standards for training and conducting outreach to rural nurses so victims of sexual assault can have thorough and reliable evidence collection. The use of colposcope and photographic equipment continues to be a major part of this grant as well as developing a close network with the Montana Crime Lab for specifics needed in collection of evidence. This grant will work closely with the Montana Law Enforcement Academy in identifying trained medical professionals in areas where SART training will be offered to help bring local communities together to respond in a unified way that is caring and compassionate. Researchers have found that colposcopy may be the best examination method yet reported for seeing genital findings associated with rape and for evaluating whether findings may be linked to a reported assault. This grant will make the training available to nurses who are practicing or who wish to practice on Indian Reservations.

**Gallatin County Attorney** - This program will continue to provide criminal justice advocacy, emotional support, information/referrals and personal advocacy to victims of domestic abuse, stalking and sexual assault referred by the City of Bozeman and the County Attorney. The advocates will also provide training to local programs and law enforcement. This program has developed a task force of key persons who are offering multi-disciplinary training for the community and very effective and cooperative referrals so victims are having their needs met from all available sources within Gallatin County.

**City of Billings Victim/Witness** - This grant provides for victim/witness advocates who specialize their services for the cases involving domestic abuse, sexual assault and stalking that are handled by the City Attorney’s Office. The advocates focus on partner/family member assaults and other crimes against women providing court accompaniment, assistance with Orders of Protection, emotional support, information/referral and transportation.

**Park County Attorney** - This victim/witness program continues to provide services to female victims of crime in Park County. The funding will be used to continue a part-time advocate position. This advocate provides criminal justice advocacy, personal advocacy, crisis counseling, transportation, information/referral and assistance with filing for victim compensation. The Livingston community has created a network of professionals consisting of law enforcement, prosecution, victim/witness and shelter staff from the Tri-County Network Against Domestic and Sexual Abuse who have developed complete and comprehensive victim services in Park County.

## **NON-PROFIT VICTIM SERVICES GRANTS**

**Dillon Women’s Resource Center** – The Advocacy and Safe Home Program (ASH) of the Women’s Resource Center provides direct client services to victims and their children in Beaverhead and Madison Counties. These services include, but are not limited to emergency food, clothing, transportation, 24-hour hotline, medical, legal and personal advocacy, safe shelter accommodations, peer counseling, crisis intervention, support groups, follow-up services, information and referrals, assistance with crime victims compensation and provide school and community awareness and outreach campaigns.

Custer Network Against Domestic Abuse – CNADA offers services to victims of domestic and sexual abuse and stalking within a five county area. The program has a small home that they rent for office space and has the ability to shelter one family; otherwise they utilize safe homes and motels. They offer 24-hour crisis line advocacy, personal and legal advocacy and will have training for all of the law enforcement agencies within their 5-county region.

Friendship Center - This program based in Helena provides for a full-time sexual assault victim/witness coordinator and a 10-hour per week sexual assault educator. They work closely with the County Attorney and the Police and Sheriff's Departments to provide criminal justice advocacy, personal advocacy and emotional support to victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault. This program has developed specific community events to heighten the public's awareness, demonstrated a need to have more volunteers carry out the necessary victim services and work well with community members to create a multi-disciplinary approach to victim's of sexual assault.

Butte Safe Space - Through VAWA funding this program has been able to provide staff coverage of the shelter at night and on weekends, which has substantially improved the safety and accessibility of the shelter. Because this shelter serves so many victims of domestic and sexual abuse, it was imperative to provide 24-hour staffing and to be available to law enforcement when they have a victim to place.

YWCA-Sexual Assault Services –Billings – This program utilizes VAWA funding to have a full-time sexual assault advocate to provide services to victims in Yellowstone, Bighorn, Treasure, and Carbon counties. The program provides accompaniment services to sexual assault victims to hospitals, referral and counseling services to victims, their families and friends. A community outreach and education on sexual assault to area high schools, middle schools, service groups, churches and employers are a component of this program.

Tri-County Network Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault - This program has been an outreach effort of the Bozeman Area Battered Women's Project since 1996. The goal of the program has always been to become an independent functioning non-profit, through hard work and dedication by many community members this organization now exists independently. They will continue to provide crisis intervention, counseling, information/referral, shelter and personal advocacy to victims of rural neighboring counties. In addition, they work well with the victim /witness advocates from Park and Sweetgrass counties to coordinate volunteer efforts. The shelter in Livingston has established itself within the community and is working closely with the community to offer comprehensive services.

Dawson Spouse Abuse Program - This program currently funded under the Victims of Crime Act will again offer a two-day educational and informational seminar to community professionals who work with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Continuing education credits have been applied for, through Dawson Community College. This seminar will provide outreach to other areas where victim services are limited due to rural issues. This will be the fifth annual training seminar provided through funding from the VAWA, in an area where training and development opportunities are rare.

## **DISCRETIONARY GRANTS**

Montana Attorney General's Office for Victims of Crime – The project has developed a statewide domestic violence fatality review team consisting of victim services, law enforcement, prosecution, victim witness advocates, medical practitioners and the courts. The team was trained by Neil Websdale on April 30-May 2, 2002 and reviews 2 closed cases annually. This team will review the systemic approaches to DV homicide cases, identify gaps in services and make recommendations to better implement a coordinated community response.

Montana Dept of Justice – Forensic Sciences Division – The lab will use this funding to improve turnaround time in the DNA/Serology Section for cases involving sex crimes. They will also provide six comprehensive training courses in sexual assault evidence collection in addition to the SANE conferences and MLEA classes that they currently participate in.

Montana Board of Crime Control – This project will support training and technical assistance for data collection. Six statewide workshops will be offered in addition to ongoing telephone assistance.

## **COURT GRANTS**

Montana Supreme Court – This project will provide in-depth training to judges and other court personnel in the area of domestic and sexual violence. The agenda for training sessions will be developed prior to each event and submitted to MBCC

Flathead County- The Family Violence Council in Flathead County has worked in collaboration with the local courts to develop a pilot project for misdemeanor probation of domestic violence offenders. The goal of this program is to improve victim safety and hold offenders accountable. The compliance and education officer will ensure that offenders are complying with all aspects of the sentence including orders of protections, restitution and counseling.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **RFP – FY07**

# Justice Bulletin

Montana Board of Crime Control  
Website [mbcc.mt.gov](http://mbcc.mt.gov)

A Publication of the Montana Board of Crime Control 3075 N. Montana, P.O. Box 201408 Helena, MT 59620  
(406) 444-3604 FAX (406) 444-4722 TTY (406) 444-7099

Request for Proposals (RFP)

## #07-02 STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Funds

Proposal Deadline: February 2, 2007

Project Dates: July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

### I. Introduction

The Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) is soliciting proposals for funding to implement the STOP Violence Against Women Act in Montana. The purpose of the act is to promote a coordinated, multi-disciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice system's response to violence against women. It envisions a partnership among law enforcement, prosecution, courts and victim advocacy organizations to enhance victim safety and hold offenders accountable for their crimes of violence against women. A committee representing judges, prosecutors, law enforcement and victim service projects was appointed by the Board to establish priorities for initiatives to be funded from this source. The federal allocation has not yet been determined. (*Note: Funds may not be actually available for local projects on July 1<sup>st</sup> because of the federal distribution schedule. You must plan for that contingency.*) Continuation programs in good standing will be given first priority for funding, however, funding is considered on a year-to-year basis and is not guaranteed. **Public agencies receiving funding are strongly encouraged to demonstrate local support through increased match and reduced reliance on federal dollars. The Violence Against Women Subcommittee of MBCC supports a funding strategy that encourages local agencies to gradually institutionalize programs through demonstrated effectiveness. Such a funding strategy will allow MBCC to extend funding opportunities to new initiatives and broaden the impact of the STOP VAWA program.**

*Pay particular attention to Section IX. Special Requirements.*

### II. Purpose of Funds

Congress has approved fifteen specific purpose areas under which these federal funds, administered through the federal Office of Justice Programs, can be used. The areas from which applications will be accepted by MBCC are described within this RFP. MBCC will accept applications that fall within any of the Purpose Areas; however, priority will be given to those areas that are preceded with a checkmark. **Applicants must identify**

**(by number) which Purpose Area is being addressed in their request for funding.**

Call MBCC staff if you have questions about this requirement.

Congress has prescribed a distribution of funds in order to fulfill the mission of the STOP Violence Against Women Act. Each state must allocate 25% to law enforcement, 25% to prosecution, 30% to nonprofit victim services and 5% to court programs. Ten percent of the non-profit allocation will be allocated to culturally specific programs. The remaining 15% is discretionary and can be allocated to any project that meets the general requirements of the act.

### **III. Eligibility**

Agencies eligible to apply for these funds must be units of local government, tribal governments, state agencies, or private non-profit agencies.

#### **Private Non-Profit Agencies Must Document Their IRS 501-3C Nonprofit Status.**

Indian tribal governments may apply directly to the Office of Justice Programs for discretionary grants from special funds set-aside for Indian Country. Tribal governments may also apply for the state formula grant funds.

### **IV. Late Applications**

- 1) New applications that are received past the due date will be returned and not considered during the current cycle.
- 2) The first late submittal for continuation grant programs will require appearance before the Victims Committee to request consideration. The second late will not be considered during the current cycle.

### **V. Match**

➦ All public agencies must provide a 25 % in-kind (soft) or hard cash match. Non-profit programs are not required to provide match starting this year (Federal FY 2007), however, providing match does demonstrate local commitment.

***Note:*** *The budget sheet must include the required match as a percentage of the **total project budget**. Specifics of the match (amount and source {in-kind or hard cash}) must be clearly identified on **both** the Budget Sheet and Budget Narrative in the application. Projects must document the basis for determining the value of in-kind match. All match funds must be expended within the grant period and are restricted to the same uses allowed under the grant funds.*

### **VI. Funding Period**

Projects must begin on July 1, 2007, and conclude on June 30, 2008.



## VII. Limitations of Fund Use

Review this list carefully. If you have questions, call prior to submitting your proposal.

1. Purchase of equipment must be integral and necessary for the project.
2. Construction, in general, is prohibited.
3. Land acquisition is prohibited.
4. Supplanting is prohibited.
5. Consultant costs must follow the applicable federal grant guidelines, Office of Management and Budget Cost Principles A-122, A-87 or A-21, and state policy.
6. State rates are to be used for calculating mileage, per diem, and lodging.
7. Indirect costs are not allowable.
8. Pre-agreement costs are not allowable.
9. Rental costs are limited to the fair market value for similar facilities in your locality.
10. General salaries and personnel costs are allowable; overtime cannot exceed 10 percent of the personnel budget.
11. Funds may not be expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2007.
12. Purchase or lease of vehicles is not permitted. Mileage will be allowed at the current approved state rate.
13. If your agency receives less than \$500,000 per year in total federal assistance, you will not be required to arrange for an audit and may not charge audit costs to your grant. (*Note: Agencies receiving \$500,000/yr or more in total federal assistance will be required to have an audit performed in accordance with federal circular A-133. Costs for such an audit should be charged proportionately to all programs being audited.*)
14. Education and awareness campaigns are not allowable under the STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program. Outreach is allowable and means communicating what services the grant project provides to the public.

## VIII. Application Requirement

All successful applicants for grant award funds from MBCC must agree to submit quarterly narrative, data, and financial reports in the prescribed format according to MBCC time frames.

## IX. Special Requirements

## IMPORTANT NEW INFORMATION

Applications will now be accepted only through MBCC's Online Subgrant Application System (OSAS). Visit our web site at [mbcc.mt.gov](http://mbcc.mt.gov) and click on the grants link on the

green header to access instructions and to register. The majority of the application can be submitted online, however, the following **MUST BE MAILED**: proof of non-profit status if applicable, signature page, letters of support, the Resource Disclosure Form and position descriptions for any personnel that will be paid with grant funds.

## **X. Selection Process**

The Victims Committee of the Board will review proposals during their May 2007 meeting. Their recommendations will be provided to each applicant at least 15 days prior to the June 2007 meeting of the Board.

## **XI. Appeals & Awards**

Applicants may appeal the recommendation of the Victims Committee if there is *substantive* reason to do so. Notice of appeal must be made in writing to the Executive Director of the Board of Crime Control at least 10 days prior to the June 2007 Board meeting.

Awards will be finalized by the full Board at the June 2007 meeting.

## **XII. Uniform Crime Reporting**

If the grant is for a law enforcement agency, *the law enforcement agency must be reporting Uniform Crime Data to the Board of Crime Control. The crime data must be compliant with the Montana Incident Based Reporting (MTIBR) standards and policy. If an agency is not yet compliant and has plans to become compliant, they may submit a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Board will decide if the MOU would justify a waiver until the agency becomes compliant. Contact staff if you are unsure of your status. For more information please contact Scott Furois at (406) 444-4298 [sfurois@mt.gov](mailto:sfurois@mt.gov).*

## **Authorized Purpose Areas**

Grants under this program may be used for the following fifteen (15) purpose areas. The STOP Violence Against Women Committee appointed by MBCC representing law enforcement, prosecution, non-profit victim services and statewide coalition has recommended that priority be given to those proposals addressing the purpose areas marked with a check. **Below the list of purpose areas is a list of the type of projects that will be given priority based on the recommendations of the Committee:**

- √ 1. Training law enforcement officers and prosecutors to identify and respond more effectively to domestic violence, dating violence, **sexual assault** and stalking.

2. Developing, training, or expanding specialized units of law enforcement officers and prosecutors that target violence against women.
3. Developing and implementing police and prosecution policies protocols, orders, and services specifically dedicated to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women.
- √ 4. Developing, installing, or expanding data collection and communication systems to identify and track arrests, protection orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions for violent crimes against women.
- √ 5. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services programs for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; developing or improving delivery of victim services to racial, cultural, ethnic, and language minorities and other underserved populations; providing specialized domestic violence advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted; increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women.
6. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to address stalking.
7. Developing or strengthening programs to assist Indian Tribes in addressing violent crimes against women.
8. Supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts to coordinate the response of law enforcement, prosecution, courts, victim services to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
- √ 9. Training sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners.
10. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and victim services to address and recognize the needs and circumstances of older and disabled individuals who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.
12. Providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigration matters.
13. Maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families.
14. Special victim assistants in law enforcement agencies to serve as liaisons between victims and law enforcement in order to improve the enforcement of protection orders.

15. Improving responses to police-perpetrated domestic violence.

**Priority project activities under purpose area 1:**

- Competitive proposals for training of judges, prosecutors and law enforcement will be accepted from those organizations currently responsible for training these groups.

**Priority project activities under purpose area 5:**

- Increased access to local victim service providers.
- Developing or strengthening victim services programs, particularly domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking programs.

**Priority project activities under purpose area 9:**

- Training for Indian Health Services and health care providers on reservations on the use of the colposcope and gathering forensic evidence.

**XIII. Application Procedures**

Go online at [www.mbcc.mt.gov](http://www.mbcc.mt.gov) and click on grants on the green header to access instructions and registration information for completing our new online application. The majority of the application can be submitted online, however, proof of non-profit status, the Resource Disclosure Form (which can be accessed under the RFP section online), position descriptions, the signature page with original signatures and letters of support must be **mailed**. Your submission will be considered complete only if the online application is submitted **and** the mailed documents are postmarked by the deadline.

**Who to Call for Assistance:** Please call our front office if you need assistance with online registration or submission of the online application at 444-3604 and speak with Kristel Matchett or Kathy Ruppert. **THE FIRST TIME YOU USE THE ONLINE APPLICATION SYSTEM, YOU MUST REGISTER AS A NEW USER.** If you have questions regarding application content, please contact the following:

<u>Fiscal</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Connie Young	444-7361	Wendy Sturn	444-1995

**Application Check List.** Please refer to this checklist before submitting your application.

(Specify which purpose area you are applying under in both the Executive Summary and Project Narrative)

<input type="checkbox"/> Face Sheet	online
<input type="checkbox"/> Project Budget	online
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget Narrative	online
<input type="checkbox"/> Project Narrative (including executive summary)	online
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Assurances and Conditions	online
<input type="checkbox"/> Position Descriptions	mail
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Resource Disclosure Form</b>	mail
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Status	mail
<input type="checkbox"/> Signature Page	online <b>AND</b> mailed original
<input type="checkbox"/> Letters of Support	mail

**Mailing Address** for items requiring mail:

Montana Board of Crime Control  
3075 North Montana,  
PO Box 201408  
Helena, MT 59620-1408

**Deadline(s):** Applications for **RFP #07-02** must be submitted online and mailed items must be postmarked by **February 2, 2007 at 5 p.m.** Use certified mail to guarantee receipt.

Interested applicants are strongly advised to adhere closely to all deadlines and requirements. The inability to abide by deadlines is considered to be a significant reason to recommend denial of the application.

**Receipt Verification.** All applicants will be informed in writing that their application has been received and will be assigned a grant number and contact person from MBCC.

*Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided upon request. Persons with disabilities who require this material in another format in order to participate in the Request for Proposal process should contact MBCC, 3075 North Montana, PO Box 201408 Helena, MT 59620. Phone (406) 444-3604 or FAX (406) 444-4722 TTY (406) 444-7099.*

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Montana Board of Crime Control List of Board Members**

## Board Committee

### *Montana Board of Crime Control*

**Mike Anderson, Chair**  
Hill County Commissioner  
Hill County Courthouse  
315 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Havre MT 59501  
(406) 265-5481 ext. 227  
[andersonm@co.hill.mt.us](mailto:andersonm@co.hill.mt.us)

Mikie Baker-Hajek  
Executive Director  
Great Falls & Cascade  
County Victim/Witness  
Assistance Services  
PO Box 2628  
Great Falls MT 59403  
(406) 771-1180 ext. 219  
[victim-witness@bresnan.net](mailto:victim-witness@bresnan.net)

Jim Cashell  
Sheriff  
Gallatin County Sheriff's  
Office  
615 S 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bozeman MT 59715  
(406) 582-2125  
[Jim.Cashell@gallatin.mt.gov](mailto:Jim.Cashell@gallatin.mt.gov)

Brenda Desmond  
Standing Master  
District Court  
1301 S 5<sup>th</sup> W  
Missoula MT 59801  
(406) 258-4728  
[bdesmond@mt.gov](mailto:bdesmond@mt.gov)

Lynn Erickson  
Chief of Police  
501 Court Square  
Glasgow MT 59230  
(406) 228-4333  
[lerickson@cji.net](mailto:lerickson@cji.net)

Mike Ferriter  
Dept of Corrections  
1539 Eleventh Ave.  
Helena, MT 59620  
444-3930  
[mferriter@mt.gov](mailto:mferriter@mt.gov)

Harold Hanser  
624 Avenue C  
Billings MT 59102  
(406) 259-9655

Pam Kennedy  
Mayor  
PO Box 2445  
Kalispell MT 59903  
(406) 755-8941  
[pkennedy@kalispell.com](mailto:pkennedy@kalispell.com)

Rick Kirn  
Fort Peck Tribes  
PO Box 1267  
Poplar, MT 59255  
768-7195  
[kirnsurv@nemontel.net](mailto:kirnsurv@nemontel.net)

Sherry Matteucci  
Attorney at Law  
Matteucci Law Firm  
10 N 27<sup>th</sup> St Ste 310  
Billings MT 59102  
(406) 252-1000  
[sherry@ma2c.com](mailto:sherry@ma2c.com)

Steve McArthur  
Executive Director  
CCCS  
81 W Park Street  
Butte MT 59701  
(406) 782-0417  
[smcarthur@cccscorp.com](mailto:smcarthur@cccscorp.com)

Mike McGrath  
Attorney General  
215 North Sanders  
Helena, MT 59620  
(406) 444-1712  
[mmcgrath@mt.gov](mailto:mmcgrath@mt.gov)

Lois Menzies  
Court Administrator  
PO Box 203005  
Helena MT 59620  
(406) 841-2957  
[lmenzies@mt.gov](mailto:lmenzies@mt.gov)

Nickolas Murnion  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 375  
Jordan MT 59337  
(406) 557-2480  
[nmurnion@midrivers.com](mailto:nmurnion@midrivers.com)

Jim Oppedahl  
1310 Lariat Road  
Helena MT 59602  
(406) 431-6623  
[joppedahl@vzw.blackberry.net](mailto:joppedahl@vzw.blackberry.net)

Godfrey Saunders  
Principal, Bozeman High  
205 N. 11<sup>th</sup>  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
522-6202  
[gsaunders@bozeman.k12.mt.us](mailto:gsaunders@bozeman.k12.mt.us)

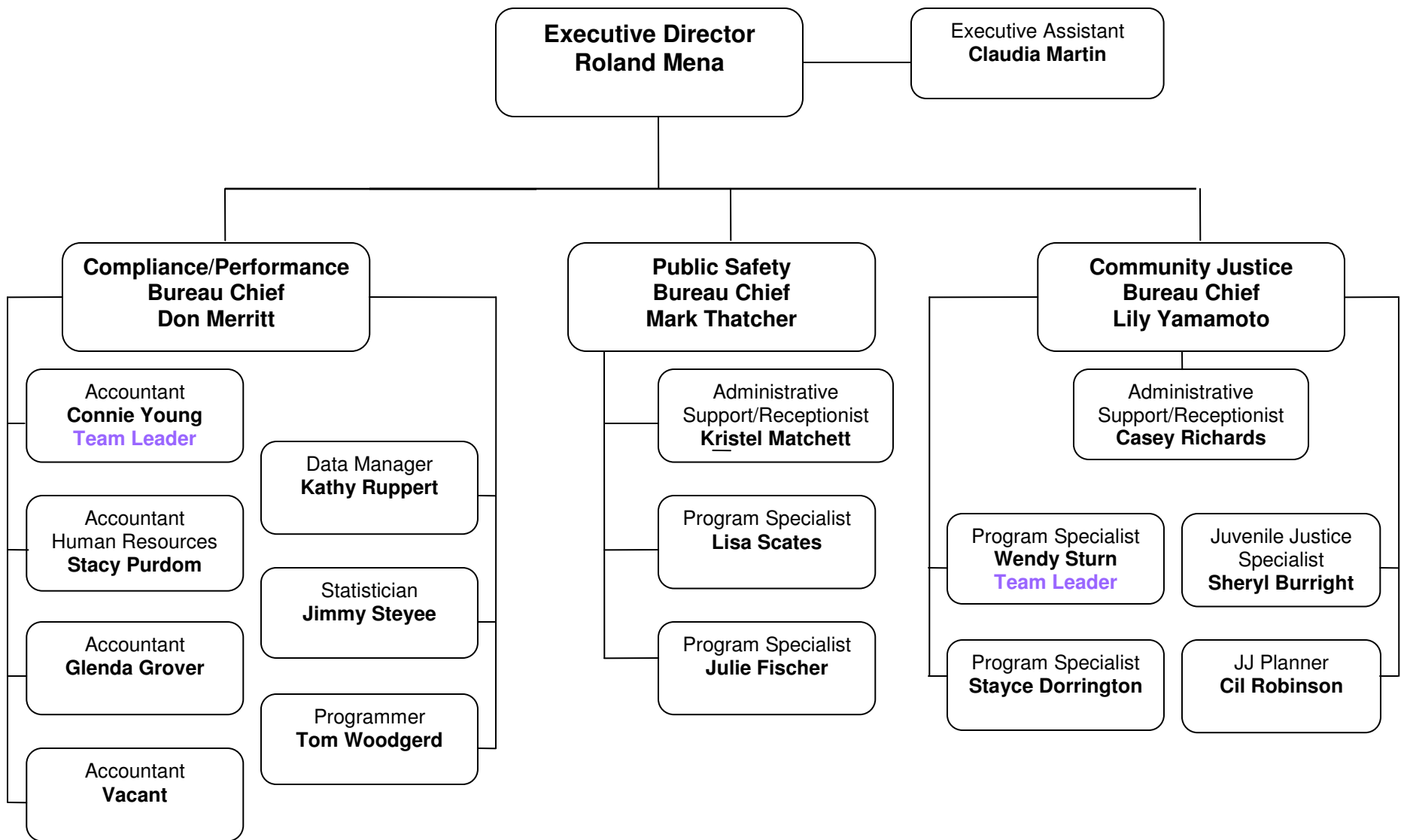
Tracie Small  
Clerk of Tribal Court  
PO Box 452  
Crow Agency MT 59022  
(406) 638-4059  
[paperkay12@hotmail.com](mailto:paperkay12@hotmail.com)

Bonnie Wallem  
206 Rosewood Drive  
Kalispell MT 59901  
(406) 756-1709  
[bwall@centurytel.net](mailto:bwall@centurytel.net)

**APPENDIX D**

**Organizational Chart**





## **APPENDIX E**

### **STOP Violence Against Women Subcommittee Members**

**MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL  
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Mike Ferriter**, Chairman  
VAWA Subcommittee  
Montana Department of Corrections  
1539 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue – PO Box 201301  
Helena, MT 59620-1301

7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, Victim/Witness Program  
**Darla Gillespie**  
207 W Bell  
Glendive, MT 59330

The Sexual Assault Counseling Center  
**Christina Powell**  
421 E Peach  
Bozeman, MT 59715

Missoula Police Department  
**Jamie Kosena**  
435 Ryman Street  
Missoula, MT 59802

Deputy City Attorney – Billings  
**Melanie Pfeifer**  
PO Box 1178  
Billings, MT 59103

Department of Corrections  
**Sally Hilander**  
PO Box 201301  
Helena, MT 59620

Sexual Abuse Victim's Treatment Pgm.  
**Patty McGeshick**  
Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes  
PO Box 1099  
Wolf Point, MT 59201

Justice of the Peace, Richland County  
**Honorable Gregory P. Mohr**  
123 West Main  
Sidney, MT 59270

Fort Belknap  
**Julie Hoops**  
RR #1, Box 362  
Harlem, MT 59526

YWCA of Missoula  
**Kelly Slattery-Robinson**  
Planet Kids Coordinator  
PO Box 7243  
Missoula, MT 59807

District Court Judge, 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District  
**Honorable Joe L. Hegel**  
PO Box 1260  
Forsyth, MT 59327-1260

Victim-Witness Assistance – Great Falls  
**Mikie Baker-Hajek**  
PO Box 2628  
Great Falls, MT 59403-2628

Montana Attorney General's Office  
**Ali Bovingdon**  
215 North Sanders  
Helena, MT 59620

Montana Attorney General's Office of Consumer  
Protection and Victim Services – **Matthew Dale**  
PO Box 201401  
Helena, MT 59620-1401

Montana Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual  
Violence  
**Kelsen Young, Director**  
PO Box 818  
Helena, MT 59624

## **APPENDIX F**

### **Letters of Support included with FY07 STOP Application**

**LETTERS FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT, PROSECUTION, NON-PROFIT VICTIM  
SERVICES AND COALITION - COURT LETTER WILL BE FAXED**

**LETTER #1 LAW ENFORCEMENT**

U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Violence Against Women Office  
810 Seventh Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20531

December 11, 2006

Greetings from Helena, Montana:

The City of Helena Police Department in Helena, Montana, has been the recipient of numerous grant funding assistance provided by the Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) for over 2+ decades and we would once again like to offer our unconditional support to them in their pursuit of continued VAWA Block Grant funding for 2007.

In 1998, with the urging of the MBCC and the availability of Federal funding, the Helena Police Department implemented a Violence Against Women STOP Program (VAWA). Every year since then, we have received financial assistance from the MBCC that has enabled us to maintain and expand our program and also provide prevention and educational support to victims of domestic violence. We have become a force to be reckoned with in our community as well as surrounding areas and the success of our program is such that we are regularly requested to assist other Montana law enforcement agencies in developing their programs. Our unified efforts have provided visible, positive results in the area of crimes against women; however we must continue to secure grant funding to maintain our current level of service.

The MBCC provides funding for officers and staff salaries for individuals assigned not only to VAWA programs throughout the state of Montana, but other worthwhile programs and projects that benefit the population as a whole. Funding has been made available for advanced, ongoing education that has proven to be an essential element for officer(s) who respond to violent person crime such as domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assaults, stalking, etc. with sensitivity and compassion. These two characteristics are fundamental in understanding the underlying dynamics affecting not only the offender, but the victim(s) too. Appropriate training teaches officers to look at the entire scenario, not just the preconceived idea of what may be or has happened.

The original intention of the nationwide VAWA program was to address women and violent crimes such as domestic violence and sexual assaults, but during the past several years, our objectives have broadened to include not just women, but other groups not previously identified.

The developmentally disabled is one of those groups that has been overlooked and inadequately served by the system for years. These individuals are part of ever-increasing number of our population and are living in established group homes, with primary care providers or have been mainstreamed into the community. Statistics have shown that this group is at high risk for being victimized because they often don't possess the life skills necessary to recognize predators. The Helena community realized the necessity of dealing with this situation and developed a focus group with representatives from the Helena Police Department, Golden Triangle Mental Health, Child Protective Service, Helena Family Violence Council, local therapists, the Helena Ministerial Association, and the Indian Alliance to name a few. Available resources were reviewed and the combined efforts of these organizations and numerous "brainstorming" sessions provided a network of assistance available to law enforcement to effectively communicate with these victims without minimizing their risk. Safety solutions and investigative protocols have also been developed for DD providers that assist in the investigation of incidents involving the developmentally disabled.

The Montana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (MDVFRT) is another multi-disciplinary group of experts from throughout Montana that was created in 2003 to study domestic violence homicides and makes recommendations for changes by the law enforcement community and society as a whole. This is just one of the many ways communities are dealing with the increasing problem of violence against women, but we need to ensure that Federal funding remains available to help us in our efforts. The HPD has also been recognized for their contribution to the development of the Sexual Assault Evaluation Center for the Helena area. Continued VAWA funding during the past couple of years has enabled us to dedicate the manpower necessary to ensure the success of the center and increase prosecution of sexual assault crimes against women and children.

Statistics continue to show an alarming increase in the number of reported VAWA related crimes since the inception of the program and we continue to maintain the positive, successful results we experienced our first year. Year after year we have met or exceeded our goals, but financial assistance is paramount in our struggle to retain this officer position specifically assigned to investigate violent crimes committed against women and children in Helena, Montana. The confidence, support and financial aid from the U.S. Department of Justice is invaluable and has provided us with advantages we may not have otherwise been afforded. It's my hope that funding will continue in 2007 and well beyond for such a worthwhile cause.

Sincerely,

Troy McGee, Chief of Police  
Helena, Montana Police Department

TM:bk

## **LETTER #2 LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY**

December 15, 2006

Dear STOP VAWA Grant Committee:

Please accept this letter of support for continued STOP VAWA funding for Montana. This funding has been key in providing a full-time Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program Trainer at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. With this trainer, we have been able to provide rural law enforcement training across the state in the area of Advanced Domestic Violence Response for law enforcement officers focusing on the review of Domestic Violence dynamics, weapon seizure, Full Faith and Credit, risk management, protection orders, and Montana Annotated Codes for Domestic Violence. We also provide a Basic Domestic Violence Response training around the state and as a required course at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy for new law enforcement officers.

Projects we have finished in 2006 because of this funding include: 1.) the completion and distribution of a Sexual Assault field guide for law enforcement officers, county attorneys and judges, and advocates addressing each entities responses to a Sexual Violence incident and how each entity can work together, and 2.) the finalization and distribution of an interactive, tracked Advanced Domestic Violence response training CD for rural law enforcement officers to use for training. The training is directly linked to the Montana Law Enforcement POST certification program. This training has proved to be very effective and a great way for Law Enforcement to get Domestic Violence Training without having to travel. Officers can take the training interactively and at their own pace.

Projects for 2007 include: 1.) Creating a field guide for Law Enforcement that provides investigative strategies and requirements for Domestic Violence cases. This will be a revision of the current manual that was completed in 2002. 2.) Hosting a conference on Sexual Violence, this will be instructed by Roy Hazelwood, a world renowned criminal profiler and former FBI Agent. 3.) Providing updates throughout the to Law Enforcement regarding Domestic Violence issues and assisting departments with implementing and updating policies related to Domestic Violence.

Collaborations with other organizations provided by this grant include: 1.) working with the Montana Association of Counties and the Montana Municipal Insurance Authority to determine risk management topics in the area of Domestic Violence response by law enforcement and to provide training in those areas. 2.) working with the Montana Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence for the training of advocates and law enforcement officers. 3.) working with the Criminal Justice Information Network to provide consistent training for law enforcement response to protection orders. 4.) working with Child Family Services Division to provide law enforcement training on CFSD response to Domestic Violence cases. 5.) working with Probation & Parole to provide basic Domestic Violence Dynamics training to assist Probation and Parole officers in their work with DV offenders. 6.) working with the local Friendship Center Women's shelter to provide opportunities for child victims to have a voice in training.

Your continued funding of the STOP VAWA grant for Montana will only serve to increase our positive impact on Domestic Violence response throughout the state for many law enforcement officers, victims, legal entities, probation and parole officers, and help us continue to form positive working relationships between Child Family Services and the Montana Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence as well as increase our cooperative circle of players in the fight against Domestic Violence.

Sincerely,

Derek VanLuchene,  
Professional Programs Manager  
Montana Law Enforcement Academy  
Department of Justice, DCI



## **LETTER #3 PROSECUTION**

December 1, 2006

United States Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs Violence Against  
Women Office  
Diane Stuart, Director  
810 Seventh Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20531

RE: VAWA Grant Funding in Montana

Program Administrators:

I am a prosecutor for the City of Billings and a member of the Montana Board of Crime Control's VAWA subcommittee. I have been a prosecutor for seventeen years. Billings is the largest city in Montana with over 100,000 people. It has a diverse population, including large minority populations of Hispanics and native Americans. Several nearby reservations also contribute to a large transient population.

Since 2001 VAWA grant monies have allowed the City of Billings to hire of a full time special prosecutor dedicated to prosecuting domestic violence and sexual assault misdemeanor offenses. Prior to receiving the V A W A grand funding the City of Billings employed only two prosecutors to handle thousands of misdemeanor offenses, including over 350 domestic violence cases a year. Based upon the sheer volume of misdemeanor and traffic cases, special attention to the aggressive prosecution of domestic violence and sexual assault cases did not exist.

The domestic violence unit formed through VAWA grant monies has produced a team of victim witness advocates and a prosecutor to work these high maintenance cases through the criminal justice system. Our statistics show we now have over 400 cases a year, which number will steadily increase. The goal of the unit is to hold offenders accountable and provide safety for victims and children. A dedicated unit enhances our ability to respond and effectively deal with families in crisis. In 2007 our office will add another criminal attorney to our staff, bringing the number of prosecutors to four.

In July 2006 the Billing Police Department received a grant through collaboration with the domestic violence unit. The goal was to provide the unit with a domestic violence investigator to provide follow up assistance after the cases had been filed in court. The need was obvious. The way to implement such a program took a team effort between the finance department, Billings Police Department and the City Attorney. Our first request for a domestic violence investigator was turned town. We persisted and were granted the funding for fiscal year July 2006 through June 2007. The City Attorney's office provided a three hour block of domestic violence training to emphasis the areas of need when completing follow up.

The effects of the domestic violence investigator were immediately recognized. We utilize officers who volunteer for the extra duty. Follow up includes obtaining written statements from witnesses. Taking photos. Obtaining signed medical releases. Service of subpoenas and orders of protection. They are used to locate hard to find victims or victims who are not cooperative. The additional information we receive from the follow up investigation allows better analysis of the case for a more informed decision on how to proceed with prosecution. It also sends a strong message to victims and families that crimes of domestic violence are deserving of extra attention. It can mean the difference between a victim who will not cooperate to a victim who will attend trial.

Our juries have not embraced evidence based prosecution. Juries want to see a sympathetic victim who has obvious painful injuries. Jurors always agree that domestic violence is bad, but once in the jury room they like to convict on a stereotypical, cooperative, physically injured victim. Naturally, most cases are not like that.

The domestic violence investigator is an important component of the domestic violence unit and represents the best we have to offer victims and families. It can only enhance our ability to hold offenders accountable and keep families safe. Without the domestic violence investigator we are forced to complete some of this work our selves or it doesn't get done. We are not investigators and becoming too involved in that aspect of the case is a conflict.

We continue to use other resources of the police department to gather evidence. The police department provides almost immediate access to photographs. We have access to jail calls and are able to monitor contact between victims and defendants at the jail. The police department has school resource officers that we contact when we know of a child who is in a home where domestic violence is occurring. We have an officer assigned to special housing units which prohibit persons convicted of domestic violence from residing there. We have recently been in contact with A TF regarding our sentencing orders complying with the federal firearm prohibition.

In short the grant allowing our unit to have a part time domestic violence investigator from the Billings Police Department has been a boon to our unit. We have served warrants that would otherwise sit. The response from officers has been very positive. It truly fills a void in our program. We are more effective in our work and satisfied we have the information we need to make an informed decision about a case.

Thank you for your support of our unit and continued support of the V A W A State Block Grant.

Sincerely,

Melanie S. Pfeifer  
Deputy City Attorney

CC: Wendy Stem

## **LETTER #4 NON-PROFIT VICTIM SERVICES**

December 4, 2006

U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Violence Against Women Office  
810 Seventh Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20531

To Whom It May Concern:

The Friendship Center of Helena has programs which are funded by Montana's STOP VAWA State Block Grant, and this letter is written in support of continuation of this funding source, both for our agency and similar organizations throughout Montana.

Montana is a very rural state, with the Friendship Center being the only shelter providing a safe haven and support services to victims of domestic and sexual violence in a three-county area encompassing more than 6,000 square miles. In 2005, the Center served over 870 victims, of which 331 were children. In the same year, the Center answered 1,125 crisis hotline calls, provided 3,877 shelter nights and assisted 297 primary and secondary victims petition for civil protective orders.

The Friendship Center began receiving VAWA funding in 1995. Prior to this, Helena and the surrounding area did not have an established rape crisis response program or a crime victim/witness advocate for a population of over 70,000. VAWA funding has enabled the Center to provide these types of services to literally thousands of victims of domestic and sexual violence. Additionally, this funding has made it possible for our Outreach and Education Coordinator to speak about dating violence to over 2,000 middle and high school, and college students each year.

Clearly, without VAWA funded programs such as the Friendship Center, the safety of thousands of Montana women, children and men would be compromised, putting them at risk for serious physical and emotional harm. Therefore, I write in full support of the continuation of Montana's STOP VAWA State Block Grant.

Sincerely,

Deborah Bakke  
Crime Victim and Rape Crisis Advocacy Programs Director

**LETTER #5 MONTANA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

December 12, 2006

Wendy Sturn, Program Specialist  
Montana Board of Crime Control  
3075 N. Montana  
Helena, MT 59624

To Whom It May Concern:

Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV) would like to express it's continued support and commitment to the Montana Board of Crime Control and their facilitation of the STOP Violence Against Women Subcommittee. MCADSV has welcomed the opportunity to participate on the committee and in the development of the statewide implementation plan for the STOP funds.

MCADSV is a statewide coalition of individuals and organizations working together to end domestic and sexual violence through advocacy, public education, public policy, and program development. Our mission is to support and facilitate networking among our member organizations while advocating for social change in Montana. MCADSV represents a majority of the state's domestic and sexual violence service providers and is the primary statewide organization providing training and technical assistance to these programs. As a member of the STOP Violence Against Women Subcommittee, our goal is to give a voice to the interests of these service providers by sharing current information about the needs of domestic and sexual violence victims.

VAWA funds have been integral in addressing the needs of victims in Montana, and future funding for ongoing services is imperative. In addition, MCADSV supports efforts to develop new and innovative approaches to working with victims and offenders. MCADSV appreciates the continued opportunity to provide input as a representative of our member programs on the use of STOP funding and how it can best be used to provide safety and stability for victims of domestic and sexual violence.

As the state representative of community-based domestic and sexual violence programs and as a participant in the subcommittee, we wholeheartedly support the Montana Board of Crime Control as recipients of these funds.

Sincerely,

Kelsen Young  
Executive Director

## **VAWA SUPPORT LETTER FROM SUPREME COURT**

December 7, 2006

U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Violence Against Women Office  
810 Seventh Street, N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20531

Greetings:

I write in support of the need to continue the STOP VAWA funds that are administered by the Montana Board of Crime Control. These funds fill a truly critical gap in Montana's ability to address violent crimes committed against women.

The state of Montana currently uses these funds to support approximately 20 programs, including court-related projects, victim advocates, specialized investigative units, shelter programs and many others. In the Judicial Branch, we have used these funds to host a conference focusing on violence against children and the courts' reaction to these cases. The conference brought together all parts of the criminal justice system to work on addressing a significant problem in Montana. Without this funding, the training would not have been possible.

Continued STOP VAWA funds will provide us with the ongoing opportunity to coordinate responses to the violent offenses themselves, as well as permitting law enforcement, prosecutors, court and victim service providers to combine their efforts to ensure both victim safety and offender accountability. Without STOP VAWA funds, those of us in Montana would be unable to meet these objectives.

The populations served by this funding are predominantly female (90 percent plus), 66 percent of the victims served are between 18 and 44 years of age, 85 percent are white, 10 percent are Native American and two percent are Hispanic. These figures, of course, are largely reflective of the population mix in Montana.

STOP VAWA funds are crucial for Montana to continue to address violent crimes against women. I urge your continue support of these programs.

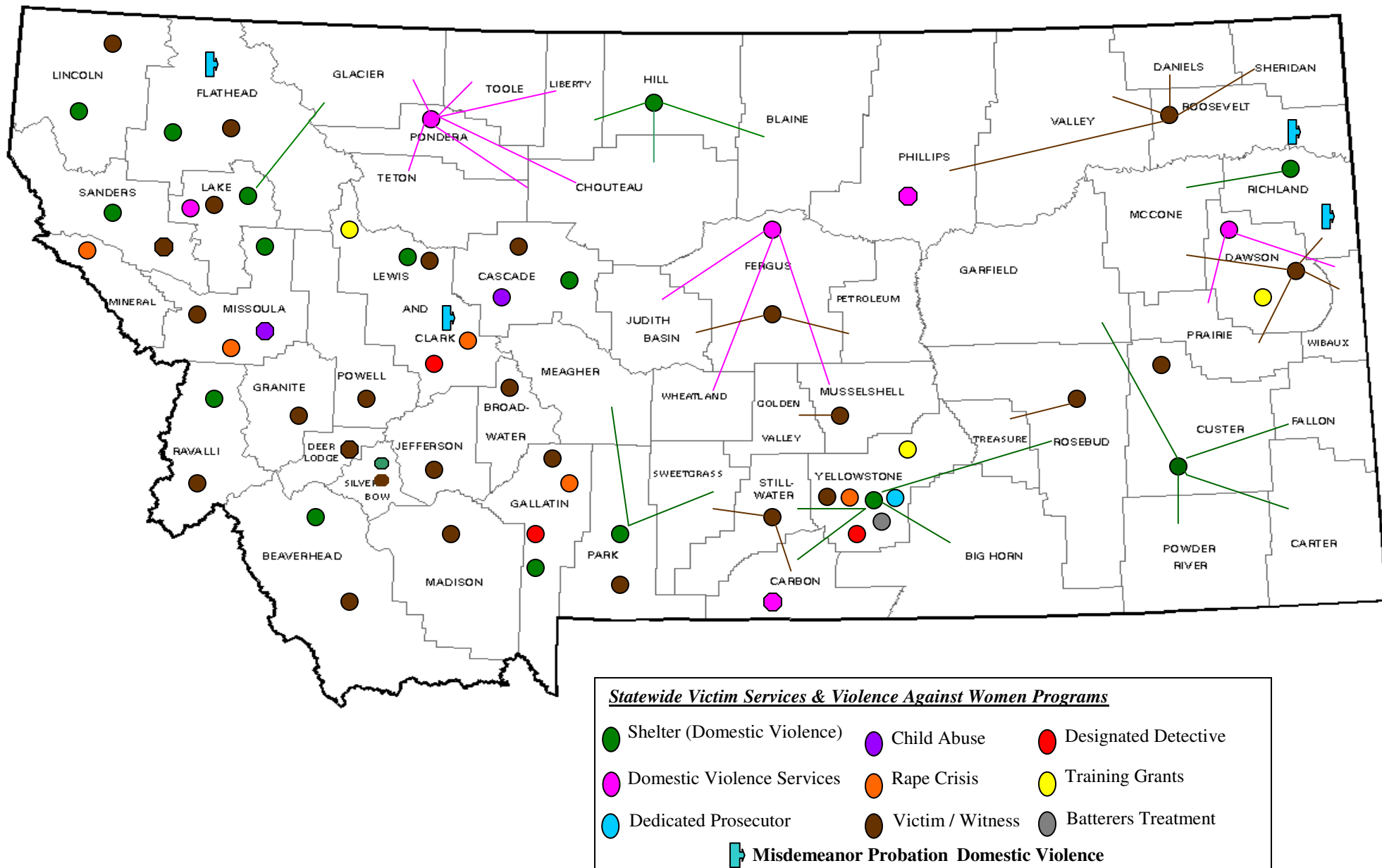
Sincerely,

Lois Menzies  
Supreme Court Administrator

## **APPENDIX G**

### **Victim Services Statewide Map**

**MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL  
VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROGRAMS STATEWIDE**



## **APPENDIX H**

### **Report to the Legislature: Fatality Review Commission – January 2007**



**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**  
**MONTANA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**JANUARY 2007**

This project was supported by grant 06-W05-82242 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions and recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

**STATE OF MONTANA  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION AND VICTIM SERVICES**



**Mike McGrath  
Attorney General**

**1712 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
P.O. Box 201410  
Helena, MT 59620-1410**

January 2007

Fellow Montanans:

The Montana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission brings forth its second biennial summary with a sense of both frustration and hope. We would prefer to report great success in reducing domestic violence homicide. We have not yet achieved that goal. As a state, however, Montana has made progress in intervening in violent relationships. Along with numerous statewide and community organizations, we remain committed to increasing victim safety and perpetrator accountability. The deaths experienced by the families in the four reviews completed in the past two years demand nothing less.

This report describes how the Commission does its work, summarizes trends identified through the latest reviews and, most important, contains summary forms and documents to be used in understanding and implementing the Commission's recommendations.

Unfortunately, the need for the Commission has not lessened. Seven individuals died in the homicides reviewed in this report. Since the Commission began its work in 2003, at least 27 additional domestic violence deaths have occurred. The ultimate goal of the Commission - to reduce that number - remains urgent.

The Commission is extremely grateful to the Montana legislature for the opportunity to undertake this important work. We are also indebted to Attorney General Mike McGrath for his ongoing support and to the Montana Board of Crime Control for continued funding. It is only through strong and varied partnerships that family violence can be reduced in our state.

Sincerely,

Matthew Dale, Coordinator  
Montana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission

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## Report to the 2007 Legislature

The 2003 Montana legislature created the Montana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission. In 2005, majorities in both houses extended the Commission's work for another two years. Among other things, the legislation mandates this biennial report from the Commission to the legislature, the attorney general, the governor and the chief justice of the Montana Supreme Court outlining its findings and recommendations.

It should be noted that the Commission reviews only a fraction of the family violence deaths in Montana each year. Since the passage of House Bill 116 in 2003, at least 34 Montanans have died in domestic violence homicides. From 2000 forward, our state has averaged more than eight family violence deaths per year, which should be considered a *minimum* figure. It seems likely that additional deaths that are not easily recognized as domestic violence deaths (suicides, drug overdoses, mercy killings, etc.) could push the figure even higher.

In the past two years the Commission reviewed four domestic violence homicides. None was more than three years old. All were perpetrated by men. All but one involved multiple victims. Three of the killings were homicide/suicides. The perpetrator of the fourth is serving a life sentence at Montana State Prison. In each case the perpetrator used a firearm as the murder weapon. All told, seven individuals died in these four incidents and eight children were orphaned. Their mothers ranged in age from 35 to 51. Two of these children were in the room when their father shot their mother at point-blank range.

The Commission is guided by a "no blame/no shame" philosophy. The purpose of a fatality review is not to identify an individual or agency as responsible for the deaths. These are complex cases, involving a number of individuals and variables. It is simply not true that the tragedy was the result of any one action - or inaction - in and of itself.

At the same time, none of the individuals involved with these families would consider the deaths an acceptable conclusion. These deaths traumatize not only those close to the family but, indeed, entire communities. By reviewing the homicides, the Commission seeks to identify gaps and inadequacies in the response to domestic violence, at the community and statewide levels. The goal is to prevent future family violence homicides. The attachments to this report are specific, concrete steps in that direction.

Fortunately, there is positive news to report in the area of improving the state's response in holding batterers accountable. Three of the recommendations put forth in 2005's *Report to the Legislature* are now law.

- Senate Bill 452 created automatic "no contact" orders at the time of arrest for partner or family member assault (PFMA). In any jurisdiction with an appropriate standing order, an offender is prohibited from making contact with the victim until after the initial appearance before a judge.
- House Bill 90 extended the life of the Commission through December 31, 2008.

- House Bill 476 funded domestic violence misdemeanor probation or compliance officers in three Montana communities. These individuals ensure that those convicted of PFMA complete the requirements of their sentence.
- One hundred thirty nine city or justice courts have implemented FullCourt, an electronic case management system that standardizes court practices. These courts account for 99 percent of all misdemeanor cases handled by the state each year.
- Montana is creating a Central Court Repository where court information is stored and shared. This will greatly improve the state's ability to track those convicted of domestic violence across jurisdictions. By the end of 2006, 71 courts will be placing data into the repository each day.
- The Commission was broadened and strengthened through the addition of an educator and a senior FBI agent.

Equally important, Commission members continued making contact with their peers across the state, reducing suspicion about the review process and encouraging implementation of Commission recommendations. Having judges speak with other judges, victim advocates talk with their colleagues, law enforcement converse among themselves, etc., has been essential to the Commission's success.

Montana's Commission is committed to making the reviews as well-rounded as possible. In addition to professionals and service providers, surviving family members are invited to participate in the review process. Commission members interview parents, siblings, children and former spouses of both the victim and the offender prior to the review. When possible, interviews also take place with friends, neighbors, coworkers, ministers and others who knew the family well. Their memories and descriptions broaden and deepen the review process tremendously.

Montana's Fatality Review Commission is alone in the nation in going to this extent to include input from family and community members. The Commission's model is used to train fatality review teams across the country and has been written up in the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative's *Fatality Review Bulletin*. Commission members are dedicated to reviews being more than a statistical exercise. The realization that each victim is unique and had a life outside of the tragedy is integral to the work.

The goal of domestic violence fatality reviews is to identify gaps in current systems and propose solutions that will result in fewer lives lost. Montana's Commission has begun that process. By working with community partners and statewide organizations some success has been achieved. It is essential that this work continue. Over the next two years we, along with thousands of other Montanans, will continue our efforts to reduce family violence in our state.

### **Trends identified by the Commission since January 2005:**

- Engaging Child Protective Services is an essential intervention. Child abuse takes place in many families also experiencing domestic violence. When mandated reporters neglect their responsibilities, an opportunity to get important services to the family is missed.
- Relationships between older men and underage, undereducated women were common in the fatalities the Commission reviewed. These were frequently the first romantic relationships for the young women and they quickly became pregnant. No action was taken, in spite of the age difference. Any move toward independence by her over the course of the relationship was met with increased violence, culminating in homicide when the batterer was convinced she was permanently ending the relationship.
- Firearms continue to be the most frequently used weapons.
- Important intervention opportunities exist for medical providers and the faith community. Frequently medical appointments or church services are the only interactions with service providers that the batterer allows. Training professionals in both areas to identify and intervene in violent relationships may save lives.
- Relationships with histories of threats of suicide, previous threats to kill, substance abuse and access to firearms are at high risk for domestic violence homicide.
- Mental health follow-up services for the children of domestic violence homicide victims appear to be limited and inadequate.

### **Commission recommendations include:**

- Improve screening for domestic violence by healthcare workers, probation officers and clergy.
- Require mandatory fingerprinting for all non-traffic misdemeanor offenses.
- Improve the collection and reporting of statewide domestic violence statistics, particularly from Native American reservation communities.
- Continue to close the technology gap that limits the ability of courts to track prior offenses and to exchange electronic records with one another. This is particularly important when the accumulation of misdemeanor offenses leads to felony charges.
- Improve/increase supervision of those convicted of Partner and Family Member Assault (PFMA) through increased funding for misdemeanor probation officers.
- Vigorously enforce state and federal firearm statutes for those convicted of PFMA, particularly for those identified as “prohibited persons” under federal law.
- Create and implement a domestic/dating violence education program in schools.
- Implement the Hope Card project, which places all essential order of protection information on a small, sturdy, portable plastic card.
- Extend the current “sunset” date of the Commission to December 31, 2010.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES SINCE 2000

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	FATALITY LOCATION	AGE	DATE OF DEATH	TYPE OF DEATH
Vanderpool	Eugenia	Lockwood	32	02/15/00	Homicide / Suicide
Miller	Leanne	Bozeman	42	06/03/00	Homicide / Shot By Officer
Brekke	Bonita	Bozeman	51	01/11/01	Homicide / Suicide
Williams	Bonnie	Lockwood	33	2/19/01	Homicide
Baarson	Kim	Butte	39	03/06/01	Homicide / Suicide
Van Cleave	Emily	Billings	22	04/17/01	Homicide / Suicide + 1 Child
Mosure	Michelle	Billings	23	11/19/01	Homicide / Suicide + 2 Children
Rasmussen	Noelle	Butte	23	04/13/02	Homicide / Suicide
Newman	Cathy	Frenchtown	51	05/15/03	Homicide / Suicide
Flying	Sheila	Conrad	30	05/22/03	Homicide / Suicide
McDonald	Jessica	Great Falls	32	07/01/03	Homicide / Suicide + 2 Children
Erickson	Mindie Jo	Bozeman	33	09/10/03	Homicide / Suicide
Vittetoe	Gina	Anaconda	57	07/14/03	Homicide
Zumsteg	Deborah	Billings	41	03/01/04	Homicide / Suicide
Lint/Porter	Colleen	Missoula	?	03/24/04	Homicide
MacDonald	Virginia	Missoula	40	04/29/04	Homicide / Suicide
Chenoweth	Aleasha	Plains	24	07/19/04	Homicide
Yetman	Labecca	Darby	35	08/30/04	Homicide
Hackney	Stephen	Lolo	38	11/26/04	Homicide
McKinnon	Gina	Marion	40	12/01/04	Homicide / Suicide
Baird	Donald	Anaconda	53	04/11/05	Homicide
Mathison-Pierce	Erikka	Glendive	35	06/10/05	Homicide / Suicide
LaRocque	Jill	Great Falls	22	06/25/05	Homicide
Roberson	Will	Missoula	?	07/05/05	Homicide By Hired Killer
Thompson	Dawn	Ferndale	36	08/27/05	Homicide
Haag	Von Stanley	North Fork	60	11/07/05	Homicide
Benson	Brenda	Great Falls	?	11/16/05	Homicide
Anderson	Lawrence	Opportunity	45	02/21/06	Homicide
Van Holten	JoLynn	Dillon	43	04/12/06	Homicide/Suicide
Spotted Bear	Susie	Browning	46	08/13/06	Homicide/Suicide

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES SINCE 2000/WEAPON USED

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	DATE OF DEATH	TYPE OF DEATH	WEAPON
Vanderpool	Eugenia	32	02/15/00	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
Miller	Leanne	42	06/03/00	Homicide / Shot By Officer	Firearm
Brekke	Bonita	51	01/11/01	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
Williams	Bonnie	33	02/19/01	Homicide	Firearm
Baarson	Kim	39	03/06/01	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
Van Cleave	Emily	22	04/17/01	Homicide / Suicide + 1 Child	Firearm
Mosure	Michelle	23	11/19/01	Homicide / Suicide + 2 Children	Firearm
Rasmussen	Noelle	23	04/13/02	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
Newman	Cathy	51	05/15/03	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
Flying	Sheila	30	05/22/03	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
McDonald	Jessica	32	07/01/03	Homicide / Suicide + 2 Children	Firearm
Erickson	Mindie Jo	33	09/10/03	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
Vittetoe	Gina	57	07/14/03	Homicide	Knife
Zumsteg	Deborah	41	03/01/04	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
Lint/Porter	Colleen	?	03/24/04	Homicide	Kick to head
MacDonald	Virginia	40	04/29/04	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
Chenoweth	Aleasha	24	07/19/04	Homicide	Firearm
Yetman	Labecca	35	08/30/04	Homicide	Firearm
Hackney	Stephen	38	11/26/04	Homicide	Knife
McKinnon	Gina	40	12/01/04	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
Baird	Donald	53	04/11/05	Homicide	Firearm
Mathison-Pierce	Erikka	35	06/10/05	Homicide / Suicide	Firearm
LaRocque	Jill	22	06/25/05	Homicide	Strangulation
Roberson	Will	?	07/05/05	Homicide By Hired Killer	Firearm
Thompson	Dawn	36	08/27/05	Homicide	Firearm
Haag	Von Stanley	60	11/07/05	Homicide	Firearm
Benson	Brenda	?	11/16/05	Homicide	Drug overdose
Anderson	Lawrence	45	02/21/06	Homicide	Run over
Van Holten	JoLynn	43	4/12/06	Homicide/Suicide	Firearm
Spotted Bear	Susie	46	08/13/06	Homicide/Suicide	Kick to head



# MONTANA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW COMMISSION

## **Mission**

The Montana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission (MDVFRC) is a multi-disciplinary group of experts who study domestic violence homicides in a positive, independent, confidential and culturally sensitive manner, and make recommendations – without blame – for systems and societal change.

## **Vision Statements**

Because we are committed to partner and family safety, the MDVFRC, in partnership with the local community, will achieve:

1. Systemic change: Domestic violence interventions occur early, often and successfully. Individuals communicate openly and effectively across boundaries.
2. Societal change: Communities are educated about and understand why domestic violence occurs and become involved in its reduction.

## **Guiding Principles**

1. We offer each other support and compassion.
2. We conduct the review in a positive manner with sensitivity and compassion.
3. We acknowledge, respect and learn from the expertise and wisdom of all who participate in the Review.
4. We work in honor of the victim and the victim's family.
5. We are committed to confidentiality.
6. We avoid accusations or faultfinding.
7. We operate in a professional manner.
8. We share responsibilities and the workload.

*Please direct questions, comments or suggestions about this report or the MDVFRC to Matthew Dale, 406-444-1907 or [madale@mt.gov](mailto:madale@mt.gov). Additional information (and downloadable versions of the attached forms) is available at <http://www.doj.mt.gov/victims/default.asp>.*

## MDVFRC MEMBERS

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>City</b>
Deb Bakke	Legal Advocate	Friendship Center	Helena
Ali Bovingdon	Assistant Attorney General	Department of Justice	Helena
Beki Brandborg	Team Facilitator	Mediator	Helena
Melodee Burreson	Educator	Target Range Elementary School	Missoula
John Buttram	Licensed Professional Counselor	Batterer's Treatment Program	Kalispell
Matthew Dale	Team Coordinator	Office of Victim Services	Helena
Bryan Fischer	Police Officer	Helena Police Department	Helena
Caroline Fleming	Executive Director	Custer Network Against DV	Miles City
Connie Harvey	DPHHS Supervisor	Children & Family Services Division	Billings
Warren Hiebert	Chaplain	Gallatin County Sheriff's Dept.	Bozeman
Wally Jewell	Justice of the Peace	Justice Court	Helena
Joan McCracken	Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner	Retired	Billings
Alison Paul	Attorney	Montana Legal Services	Helena
Gary Perry	Senator	Montana Legislature	Manhattan
Stewart Stadler	District Judge	State of Montana	Kalispell
Judy Wang	Prosecutor	City of Missoula	Missoula
Ernie Weyand	Senior Resident Agent	FBI	Billings
Jonathan Windy Boy	Tribal Government	Chippewa Cree	Box Elder
Angela Wood	Psychiatrist	Self – Employed	Big Fork

## **MDVFRC REVIEW TIMELINE**

The Commission selects the review community based on a number of factors. In general, homicides that are more recent, have unique circumstances and are located in communities not previously visited are preferred.

The attorney general approves the review site.

When possible, the team coordinator attends a combined community response team meeting in the host community to explain the process and answer questions.

The process of gathering information begins. Law enforcement, victim services, the courts, medical examiner, etc. are contacted. As appropriate, individuals within those systems are interviewed regarding their experience with victim or offender. Records and interview notes are sent to the team coordinator. Individuals interviewed are invited to attend a portion of the review.

Family members, close friends, coworkers, ministers, teachers, etc., are interviewed. Interview notes are passed on to the team coordinator.

The Commission coordinator sends all accumulated information to members.

Day one of the review process: a timeline is constructed identifying key events in the lives of the victim and perpetrator and their contacts with a variety of professionals/services over time (5 hours).

Day two: community members who have been involved in the accumulation of information for the review join the Commission to evaluate the timeline and provide any additional information they might have. Those attending the review read and sign a confidentiality agreement. Additions and corrections are made to the timeline (3½ hours). Following a break for lunch, the Commission discusses trends and recommendations learned from this review. Tentative dates and locations for the next review are identified (2 hours).

The Commission coordinator retrieves all written information at the end of the review and transports it back to Helena to be shredded. Members leave the site empty handed.

A summary of the review is transcribed by the facilitator and circulated to Commission members. This document is the only written record of the review. It is not made public.

**Guides  
&  
Screening Tools**

## **MONTANA'S MANDATORY REPORTING STATUTE**

MCA 2005, Title 41, Chapter 3, Part 201

When the professionals and officials listed in subsection (2) know or have reasonable cause to suspect, as a result of information they receive in their professional or official capacity, that a child is abused or neglected, they shall report the matter promptly to the department of public health and human services.

(2) professionals and officials required to report are:

- a. A physician, resident, intern, or member of a hospital staff engaged in the admission, examination, care, or treatment of the person;
- b. A nurse, osteopath, chiropractor, podiatrist, medical examiner, coroner, dentist, optometrist, or any other health or mental health professional;
- c. Christian Science practitioners and religious healers;
- d. School teachers, other school officials, and employees who work during regular school hours;
- e. A social worker, operator or employee of any registered or licensed day-care or substitute care facility, staff of a resource and referral grant program organized under Section 52-2-711, MCA, or of a child and adult food care program, or an operator or employee of a child-care facility;
- f. A foster care, residential, or institutional worker;
- g. A peace officer or other law enforcement official;
- h. A member of the clergy;\*
- i. A guardian ad litem or a court-appointed advocate who is authorized to investigate a report of alleged abuse or neglect; or
- j. An employee of an entity that contracts with the department to provide direct services to children.

\*Except as outlined in 41-3-201 sections (4)(b) and (4)(c).

## MEDICAL PROVIDER ABUSE ASSESSMENT SCREEN

1. Have you ever been emotionally or physically abused by your partner or someone important to you?  
YES NO
2. Within the last year, have you been hit, slapped, kicked, or otherwise physically hurt by someone?  
YES NO  
If YES, by whom? \_\_\_\_\_ Total number of times: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Since you've been pregnant, were you hit, slapped, kicked, or otherwise physically hurt by someone?  
YES NO  
If YES, by whom? \_\_\_\_\_ Total number of times: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Within the last year, has anyone forced you to have sexual activities?  
YES NO  
If YES, by whom? \_\_\_\_\_ Total number of times: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Are you afraid of your partner or anyone you listed above? YES NO

### ASSESS PATIENT SAFETY

- |  |     |    |
|--|-----|----|
| Is abuser here now?                          | YES | NO |
| Is patient afraid of their partner?          | YES | NO |
| Is patient afraid to go home?                | YES | NO |
| Has physical violence increased in severity? | YES | NO |
| Has partner physically abused children?      | YES | NO |
| Have children witnessed abuse in the home?   | YES | NO |
| Threats of homicide?                         | YES | NO |
| By whom: _____                               |     |    |
| Threats of suicide?                          | YES | NO |
| By whom: _____                               |     |    |
| Is there a gun in the home?                  | YES | NO |
| Alcohol or substance abuse?                  | YES | NO |
| Was safety plan discussed?                   | YES | NO |

### PHOTOGRAPHS

- |                             |     |    |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|
| Consent to be photographed: | YES | NO |
| Photographs taken:          | YES | NO |
- Attach photographs and consent form.*

### REFERRALS

- |                         |     |    |
|-------------------------|-----|----|
| Hotline number given:   | YES | NO |
| Legal referral made:    | YES | NO |
| Shelter number given:   | YES | NO |
| In-house referral made: | YES | NO |
| Describe: _____         |     |    |

- |                      |     |    |
|----------------------|-----|----|
| Other referral made: | YES | NO |
| Describe: _____      |     |    |

### (In-House Documentation Only)

#### REPORTING

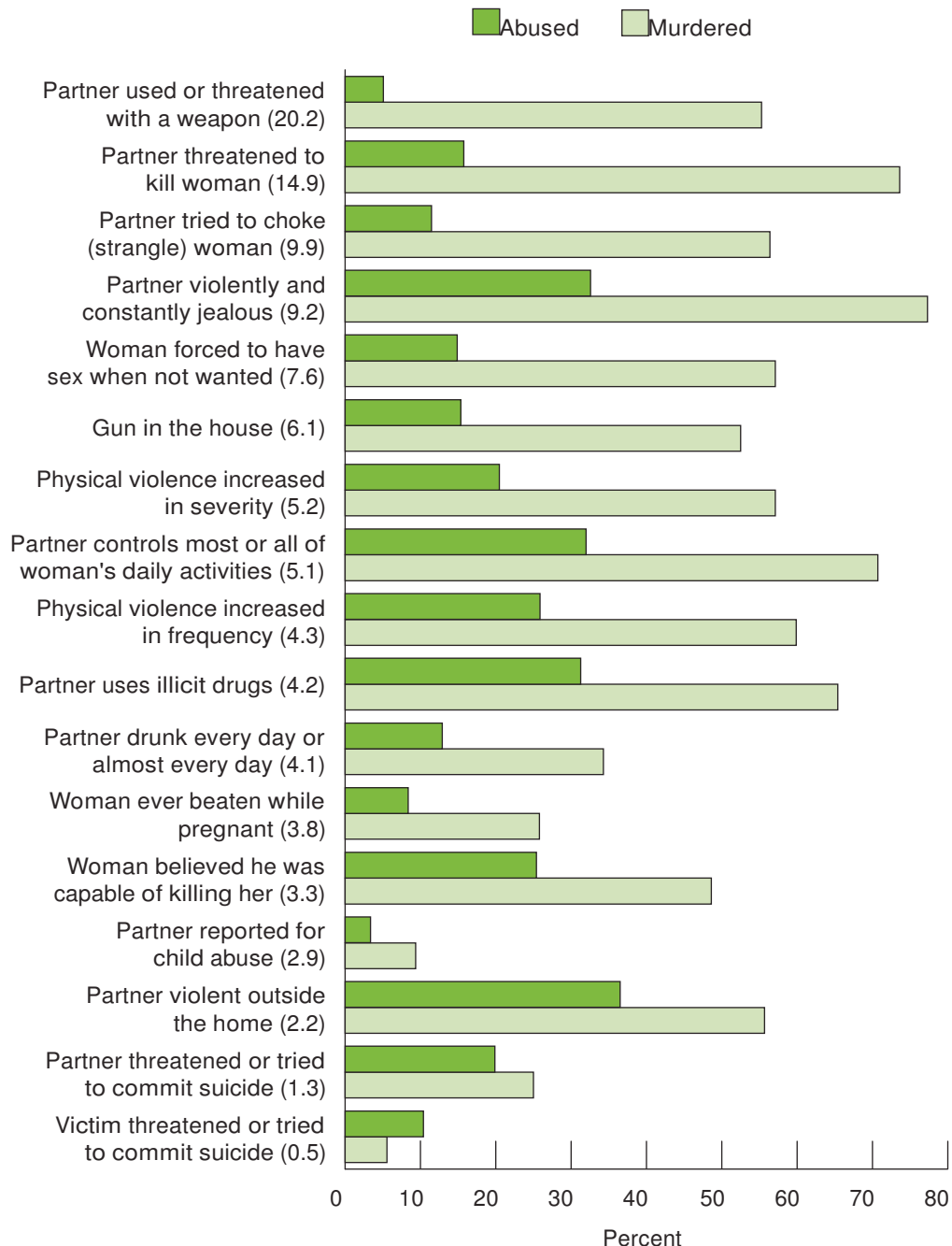
- |  |     |    |
|--|-----|----|
| Law enforcement report made:           | YES | NO |
| Child Protective Services report made: | YES | NO |
| Adult Protective Services report made: | YES | NO |



### CLINICAL GUIDELINES ON ROUTINE SCREENING

## Figure 2: Danger Assessment Risk Factors Among Murder Victims and Abused Women

(The numbers in parentheses are unadjusted odds ratios and indicate the likelihood of being in the homicide versus the abused group. \*)



\* All items had significant odds ratio (95 percent confidence interval excludes the value of 1), except the last two factors (partner and victim suicidality).

National Institute of Justice

Journal – Issue No. 250

*The Danger Assessment study found that women who were threatened or assaulted with a gun were 20 times more likely than other women to be murdered. Women whose partners threatened them with murder were 15 times more likely than other women to be killed.*

# THE INTERSECTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE

## A NATIONAL FACT SHEET

### INCIDENCE

- ❖ **It is estimated that between 2.3 and 10 million children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year in the United States.**

[Carlson, B. E. (1984). Children's observations of interparental violence. In A. R. Roberts (Ed.) *Battered women and their families* (pp. 147-167). New York: Springer among a nationally representative sample of American men and women. Paper presented at the Ross Roundtable on "Children and Violence," Washington, D.C.]

- ❖ **As many as half a million children may be encountered by police during domestic violence arrests each year in the U.S.**

[Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (November 2000). *Safe from the start – taking action on children exposed to violence*. (Publication #NCJ182789) Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.]

- ❖ **There is an overlap of 30 to 60 percent between violence against children and violence against women in the same families. The home can be a dangerous place.**

[Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (November 2000). *Safe from the start – taking action on children exposed to violence*. (Publication #NCJ182789) Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.]

- ❖ **Domestic violence has been shown to occur disproportionately in homes with children under age 5.**

[Taylor, L., Zuckerman, B., Harik, V., & Groves, B. (1994). Witnessing violence by young children and their mothers. *Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics* 15 (2), 120–123.]

- ❖ **Although many adults believe that they have protected their children from exposure to domestic violence, 80-90 percent of children in those homes can give detailed descriptions of the violence experienced in their families.**

[Doyne, S., Bowermaster, J. & Meloy, R. (1999). Custody disputes involving domestic violence: Making children's needs a priority. *Juvenile & Family Court Journal*, 50, (2). Jaffe, P., Wolfe, D., & Kaye Wilson, S. (1990). *Children of battered women*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.]

- ❖ **Studies have shown that 25 percent of domestic homicides are witnessed by the children of the victim.**

[Doyne, S., Bowermaster, J. & Meloy, R. (1999). Custody disputes involving domestic violence: Making children's needs a priority. *Juvenile & Family Court Journal*, 50 (2). Jaffe, P., Wolfe, D., & Kaye Wilson, S. (1990). *Children of battered women*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.]

### CHILDREN EXPOSED TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence - 2002



## **COUNSELING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS A GUIDE FOR CLERGY**

### **Q: What can I do to be helpful if an abusive situation is revealed?**

- Listen to the victim and believe him or her. Tell the individual that the abuse is not his or her fault, and it is not God's will.
- Tell the victim that he or she is not alone and that help is available.
- Let him or her know that without intervention, abuse often escalates in frequency and severity over time.
- Seek expert assistance. Refer the person only to specialized domestic violence counseling programs, not to couples counseling. Offer to find a shelter, a safe home, or advocacy resources to offer protection. To suggest that the victim merely return home places the victim and any children in real danger.
- Hold the abuser accountable. Don't minimize the abusive behavior. Assist the person in seeking specialized batterers' counseling to help change the behavior. Continue to hold the abuser accountable and to support and protect the victim even after participation in a counseling program has begun.
- If restoration of the relationship is to occur, it can be considered only after the above steps have taken place.

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## MISDEMEANOR CRIMES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND FEDERAL FIREARMS PROHIBITIONS

Persons who have been convicted in any court of a qualifying misdemeanor crime of domestic violence (MCDV) generally are prohibited under federal law from possessing any firearm or ammunition in or affecting commerce (or shipping or transporting any firearm or ammunition in interstate or foreign commerce, or receiving any such firearm or ammunition). This prohibition also applies to federal, state, and local governmental employees in both their official and private capacities. Violation of this prohibition is a federal offense punishable by up to ten years imprisonment. See 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(9); see also 18 U.S.C. §§ 921(a)(33), 924(a)(2), 925(a)(1); 27 C.F.R. §§ 178.11, 178.32.

### ***A qualifying MCDV is an offense that:***

- Is a federal, state, or local offense that is a misdemeanor under federal or state law;
- Has as an element the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon; and,
- At the time the MCDV was committed, the defendant was:
  - A current or former spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim;
  - A person with whom the victim shared a child in common;
  - A person who was cohabiting with or had cohabited with the victim as a spouse, parent, or guardian; or,
  - A person who was or had been similarly situated to a spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim.

### ***EXCEPTIONS: A person has not been convicted of a qualifying MCDV:***

- IF the person was not represented by counsel — unless he or she knowingly and intelligently waived the right to counsel;
- IF the person was entitled to a jury trial AND the case was not tried by a jury — unless the person knowingly and intelligently waived the right to jury trial; or,
- IF the conviction was set aside or expunged; the person was pardoned; or, the person's civil rights — the right to vote, sit on a jury, and hold elected office — were restored (if the law of the applicable jurisdiction provides for the loss of civil rights under such an offense).

***BUT:*** This exception does NOT lift the federal firearms prohibition if:

- the expungement, pardon, or restoration of civil rights expressly provides that the person may not ship, transport, possess, or receive firearms; or,
- the person is otherwise prohibited by the law of the jurisdiction in which the proceedings were held from receiving or possessing any firearms.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT SECTION 922(g)(9) OR FEDERAL FIREARMS PROHIBITIONS GENERALLY, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FIELD DIVISION OF THE BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS BY CALLING (800) 800-3855.

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